

JPRS-NEA-87-036

25 MARCH 1987

Near East/South Asia Report

FBIS

FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

NOTE

JPRS publications contain information primarily from foreign newspapers, periodicals and books, but also from news agency transmissions and broadcasts. Materials from foreign-language sources are translated; those from English-language sources are transcribed or reprinted, with the original phrasing and other characteristics retained.

Headlines, editorial reports, and material enclosed in brackets [] are supplied by JPRS. Processing indicators such as [Text] or [Excerpt] in the first line of each item, or following the last line of a brief, indicate how the original information was processed. Where no processing indicator is given, the information was summarized or extracted.

Unfamiliar names rendered phonetically or transliterated are enclosed in parentheses. Words or names preceded by a question mark and enclosed in parentheses were not clear in the original but have been supplied as appropriate in context. Other unattributed parenthetical notes within the body of an item originate with the source. Times within items are as given by source.

The contents of this publication in no way represent the policies, views or attitudes of the U.S. Government.

PROCUREMENT OF PUBLICATIONS

JPRS publications may be ordered from the National Technical Information Service, Springfield, Virginia 22161. In ordering, it is recommended that the JPRS number, title, date and author, if applicable, of publication be cited.

Current JPRS publications are announced in Government Reports Announcements issued semi-monthly by the National Technical Information Service, and are listed in the Monthly Catalog of U.S. Government Publications issued by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

Correspondence pertaining to matters other than procurement may be addressed to Joint Publications Research Service, 1000 North Glebe Road, Arlington, Virginia 22201.

JPRS-NEA-87-036

25 MARCH 1987

NEAR EAST/SOUTH ASIA REPORT

CONTENTS

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

REGIONAL AFFAIRS

Pakistan, India, Sri Lanka Suffer Unceasing Ethnic Conflict
(Kamal Samari; AL-DUSTUR, 22 Dec 86)..... 1

ARAB AFRICA

SUDAN

Southern Parties Release Statement on Administration of South
(GUIDING STAR, 19 Feb 87)..... 4

Paper Shortage Reported To Threaten Press
(SUDAN TIMES, 22 Feb 87)..... 9

ARAB EAST/ISRAEL

IRAQ

Biography of New Minister of Light Industries
(AL-THAWRAH, 22 Feb 87)..... 10

ISRAEL

New Measures Aim at Bolstering South Lebanese Army
(David Rudge; THE JERUSALEM POST, 20 Feb 87)..... 11

Poll Indicates Increased Support for Alignment (HA'ARETZ, 13 Feb 87).....	13
--	----

Briefs

International Conference	14
First Arab Diplomat	14
Embassy in Pretoria To 'Lower Profile'	14
Trade Gap Increases	15
September-December 1986 Unemployment	15
Industrial Agreement With Belgium	15
Trade Accord With Paraguay	16
Gaza Detention Facility	16
New Mayor in Bi'r Zayt	16

KUWAIT

Islamic Summit Holds Hopes for Arab Summit (Wahib Muhammad Gharrab; AL-MAJALLAH, 4-10 Feb 87).....	17
---	----

Moscow Director of Kuwaiti News Agency on Regional Issues (MOSCOW NEWS, 1-8 Feb 87).....	21
---	----

Security Situation Described as 'Normal' (ARAB TIMES, 17 Feb 87).....	23
--	----

Measures Taken To Protect Aircraft (ARAB TIMES, 17 Feb 87).....	25
--	----

OECD Oil Consumption Statistics (AL-SIYASAH, 13 Jan 87).....	26
---	----

Oil Pipeline Project Under Consideration (AL-SIYASAH, 13 Jan 87).....	27
--	----

Briefs

Military Officials Meet	29
Oil Tanker Attacked by Iranians	29

LEBANON

Qabalan Discusses Hostages, Security Plan, Other Issues (MONDAY MORNING, 9-15 Feb 87).....	30
---	----

SAUDI ARABIA

Lebanese Newspaper Praises Aid to Lebanon (al-Majdhub; AL-JAZIRAH, 7 Feb 87).....	34
--	----

Contributions Solicited for Afghan Mujahidin (AL-JAZIRAH, 7 Feb 87).....	36
---	----

Briefs

Food Sent to Sudan	39
Food Sent to Lebanon	39
Expatriate Laws Generalized	39

SYRIA

Decrees Issued on Local Government Representatives (TISHRIN, 19, 22 Jan 87).....	40
Members of Municipal Councils	40
Provincial Councils Makeup	42

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

Trade With USSR To Increase (Raman Kapoor; KAHLEJ TIMES, 20 Feb 87).....	49
---	----

Briefs

ESL Development Plans	50
Cooperation Agreement With Iraq	50
Economic Accord With Turkey	50

SOUTH ASIA**AFGHANISTAN****Briefs**

Mujahidin Leader's Health	52
---------------------------	----

BANGLADESH

Political Process Said in Stalemate (Pran Chopra; THE ISLAND, 4 Feb 87).....	53
---	----

INDIA

India, Canada Sign Extradition Treaty (THE TIMES OF INDIA, 7 Feb 87).....	56
--	----

Reportage on Talks To Defuse Pakistan Border Tension (THE HINDU, 28 Jan-5 Feb 87; THE TIMES OF INDIA, 6 Feb 87) .	57
--	----

Analyst Gives Background, by G. K. Reddy	57
Differences Over Scope, by G. K. Reddy	58
1 February Secret Proceedings, by G. K. Reddy	59
2 February Proceedings, Talks Extended, by G. K. Reddy	60
3 February Activities, by G. K. Reddy	61

Limited Understanding Reached, by G. K. Reddy	62
Text of Minutes	63
Talks Called Not Wholly Successful, Editorial	64
 Analyst Comments on Zia Visit to India (G. K. Reddy; THE HINDU, 6 Feb 87).....	66
 Press Reports Further on Indo-Pakistan Relations (PATRIOT, 6 Feb 87; THE HINDU, 31 Jan 87).....	67
 Gandhi Remarks to Newsmen	67
Gandhi Remarks Indian, Pakistani Forces Compared, by Manoj Joshi	68
 BSF Unearths Three Pak Espionage Networks (PATRIOT, 5 Feb 87).....	72
 Dates for Talks With PRC To Be Decided (G. K. Reddy; THE HINDU, 9 Feb 87).....	73
 Analyst on Gandhi Talks With Finnish President (G. K. Reddy; THE HINDU, 4 Feb 87).....	74
 Report on Meeting of Indo-Yugoslav Joint Committee (PATRIOT, 4 Feb 87).....	76
 Paper Reports on Acquisition of Foreign Fighter Planes (THE TELEGRAPH, 5 Mar 87).....	77
 Soviet MIG Offer	77
French Mirage 2000's	77
 Defense Institute Official on Weapons Needs (PATRIOT, 5 Feb 87).....	79
 Commissioner Announces Dates of State Elections (THE STATESMAN, 5 Feb 87).....	80
 Amended Goa Language Bill Passed (THE STATESMAN, 5 Feb 87).....	82
 Briefs	
Envoy to Botswana	83
Congress-I-CPSU Ties	83
Rajasthan Oil Strike	83
Intelligence Bureau Chief	83
DMK Leaders Sentenced	84
Chandra Shekhar Ill	84
Indo-Canadian Panel	84

IRAN

Apology by FRG TV Network Deemed Insulting, Insufficient (Tehran Domestic Service, 19 Feb 87).....	85
Khamene'i Visits Atomic Energy Organization Office (IRNA, 17 Feb 87).....	87
Former Rafsanjani Pilot Assassinated in Hamburg (Mesbahzadeh; London KEYHAN, 22 Jan 87).....	88
France Reportedly Rebuffs Iraqi Arms Request (IRNA, 26 Feb 87).....	92
Briton 'Confesses' on Tehran TV (KEYHAN, 7 Feb 87).....	94
KEYHAN Hits BBC Line on 'Experienced Spy' Cooper (Editorial, Seyyed Mohammad Ebrahimi; KEYHAN, 7 Feb 87)...	99
KEYHAN on 'Spies' Aiding Iraqi Air Strikes (Tehran Domestic Service, 15 Feb 87).....	101
20 Arrested for Spying for Iraq in North (IRNA, 26 Feb 87).....	103
Tehran Commentary on 'War of Cities' (Tehran Domestic Service, 15 Feb 87).....	104
Iraqi POW's Interviewed by Foreign Correspondents (Tehran Domestic Service, 18 Feb 87).....	106
Iraqi Pilot Captured in Gachsaran Interviewed (Tehran Domestic Service, 16 Feb 87).....	108
Captured Iraqi Pilots Visit Bombed Sites in Qom (IRNA, 22 Feb 87).....	110
Commentary on 'Resolve' To Defeat Air Attacks (Tehran Domestic Service, 21 Feb 87).....	111
Briefs	
Soviet Agent Alleged	113
Khomeyni's Health	113
Meeting With Nicaraguan Envoy	113
Mojahedin-e Khalq Members Arrested	113

NEPAL

Briefs	
Asian Development Bank Loan	114

PAKISTAN

Opposition Party Leader Criticizes U.S., Afghan Policy (DAWN, 5 Feb 87).....	115
Bhutto Charges Zia 'Mishandled Relations' With India (Kuldip Nayyar; THE MUSLIM, 15 Feb 87).....	117
Commentary Views Troop Withdrawal (Abbas Rashid; THE MUSLIM, 14 Feb 87).....	118
Minister Talks About Wheat Subsidy, Other Matters (THE PAKISTAN TIMES, 19 Feb 87).....	120
Bureaucracy Said Embezzling 80 Billion Rupees Every Year (THE PAKISTAN TIMES, 18 Feb 87).....	121
Reportage on Police Firing in Baluchistan (Delhi Domestic Service, 22 Feb 87; Karachi Domestic Service, 24 Feb 87).....	122
Six Killed Press Note Issued	122
Separatist Sentiment Fostered by Sindhi Hindus Denounced (Nawaz Khilji; HURMAT, 18-31 Dec 86).....	123
Leader Voices Demand for Northern Areas Rights (Tariq Butt; THE MUSLIM, 14 Feb 87).....	127
Muslim League Plans To Publish Manifesto (THE PAKISTAN TIMES, 18 Feb 87).....	128
Commentary Looks Back at 1985 Elections (Ali Sikander; THE MUSLIM, 15 Feb 87).....	129
National Highway: Private Sector Role Welcomed (THE MUSLIM, 14 Feb 87).....	131
WAPDA Said To Explore Water Near Quetta (THE PAKISTAN TIMES, 18 Feb 87).....	132
Asghar Khan Assails Shariat Bill (THE MUSLIM, 16 Feb 87).....	133
Commentary Discusses Possible PPP-JI Cooperation (Khalid Akhtar; THE MUSLIM, 15 Feb 87).....	134
MRD-JI Cooperation Said Not Possible (THE MUSLIM, 16 Feb 87).....	136

Plans for 4th Karachi District Said Final (THE PAKISTAN TIMES, 19 Feb 87).....	137
Briefs	
Karachi Divided Into 14 Zones	138
1986 Oil Production	138
IDA Approves Loan	138
SRI LANKA	
Editorial Hails Government's Devolution Plan (DAILY NEWS, 5 Feb 87).....	139
Tamil Villagers Want 'Continued Military Presence' (LANKA PUWATH, 23 Feb 87).....	141
Security Forces Destroy LTTE Camp in Northwest (LANKA PUWATH, 24 Feb 87).....	142
Military Achieves Objectives Against LTTE (AFP, 20 Feb 87).....	143
Tamil Rebel Leader Asks No Support for LTTE (LANKA PUWATH, 22 Feb 87).....	145
Three 'Gangs of Terrorists' Ally To Fight LTTE (LANKA PUWATH, 25 Feb 87).....	146
Tamil Radio Condemns DAILY NEWS, DECCAN HERALD (Voice of Tamil Eelam, 3 Feb 87).....	147
Tamil Radio on Current Situation, Future Role (Voice of Tamil Eelam, 10 Feb 87).....	148
Tamil Radio on Obstacle to Indian Mediation (Voice of Tamil Eelam, 15 Feb 87).....	150
Briefs	
Refugees Return From India	151
Camps To Rehabilitate Terrorists	151
Economic Commission Session	151
Japanese Grant Aid	152
Troops Attack Camps	152
State of Emergency Extended	152
Helicopters Strafe Village	152

/12223

PAKISTAN, INDIA, SRI LANKA SUFFER UNCEASING ETHNIC CONFLICT

London AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 22 Dec 86 pp 34-35

[Article by Kamal Samari: "'Basus' Wars in East Asia; Population Explosion, Poverty, and Wealth"]

[Text] It is not colonialism and the time bombs it planted in East Asia, embodied in the partition of the area's countries into religious communities and sects, that are solely responsible for the bloody events which erupt from time to time in three countries which are, despite their different circumstances, combined by common denominators. These three countries are Sri Lanka, India, and Pakistan, which have not experienced political stability in the full sense of the word for nearly 4 decades because of the troubles that have been sweeping them. Why? In these three countries, there are abject poverty and excessive wealth. The three countries are characterized by their backwardness and by their population explosions and they suffer from a crushing economic crisis, despite all the efforts of their governments to confront this crisis.

In addition to the common denominators, some inherited by these countries from colonialism and some partially created by their own rulers, the tribes have contributed to heating up this explosive situation.

In Sri Lanka, the "Basus war," which [means all-out warfare and refers to a pre-Islamic tribal vendetta in the Arab Peninsula], has been going on for decades between the Tamil tribes, which are tied by linguistic bonds to the Tamil sect in southern India, and the Sinhal tribes. This war has claimed thousands of lives from both sides, each of whom accuses the other of committing numerous atrocities.

In Sri Lanka, the Tamil tribes are considered second-class citizens in comparison with the Sinhal majority, which embraces Buddahism. The Tamil language was recognized only recently and Tamils were not accepted in or appointed to government agencies until a few years ago.

This "ethnic discrimination" motivated the Tamil rebels to demand their independence and the establishment of a "homeland comprising the northern and eastern provinces which have historically formed the national homeland for Tamil speakers."

But what has further complicated the situation is that the Tamil political movements are in disagreement among themselves on the issue of negotiations with Sri Lanka's President Jayewardene. The clashes which erupted between these movements at the beginning of the week before last claimed 11 lives.

In Pakistan, the city of Karachi witnessed on the 14th of this month bloody riots between the Muhajir and Pathan tribes. These riots have resulted so far in hundreds of casualties and fatalities.

What is interesting in Karachi's bloody riots is that the two fighting sides embrace the same religion on the one hand and, on the other hand, represent the "minority" in Pakistan.

The Muhajir, the name given to the Muslim Indians who joined Pakistan after the partition of India in 1947, and the Pathan tribe, which settled in Northwest Pakistan, are two Muslim tribes, many of whose members have emigrated to Karachi.

The clash between the two tribes was the second in a period of 1.5 months and erupted in the wake of the Pakistani authorities' search campaign in the tin-shack quarters inhabited by families of the pathan tribe--a campaign aimed at arresting hashish and heroin dealers.

The Pathans believed that the Muhajir tribe reported them to the Pakistani police. Thus, the Pathans launched violent attacks on the quarters inhabited by the Muhajir, burned their homes, and tortured their women and children.

Despite the intervention of the army, which was instructed by President Zia-ul-Haq to fire on the rioting elements, and despite the curfew imposed on several parts of the city of Karachi, the clashes between the two tribes have not ended.

The thirst of the Muhajir tribe, whose members represent nearly 35 percent of Karachi's 7 million population, for revenge has not been quenched by the retaliatory raids which the tribe carried out at the beginning of the week before last and which claimed hundreds of fatalities and casualties. The tribe has continued to launch attack after attack on the "fraternal enemies," using all kinds of weapons.

The fact is that enmity between the two tribes dates back decades. The sensitivity between them has reached such an unreasonable limit that any small disagreement erupting between two members of these tribes is likely to ignite sedition between them and turn into a bloody confrontation.

An ordinary traffic accident in this overcrowded city has often turned into a riot because public bus drivers usually belong to the Muhajir tribe. Should an accident occur and claim a member of the Pathan tribe as a victim, such an accident turns into clashes between the two tribes because the driver is a Muhajir.

If we add to this factor the role the Sind sect, whose members are the native inhabitants of Karachi, plays in nurturing the conflicts between the two tribes, we can realize how serious is this "volcano" which threatens to erupt for no reason.

Nearly the same thing happens in India. On the 7th of this month, bloody clashes erupted, claiming the lives of 17 victims, in the wake of a story which the DECCAN, an English-language Indian newspaper, published and which the Muslim minority considered a provocation to its feelings.

After the story was published in the newspaper's supplement, mosque imams translated it to their congregations. This was enough for thousands of Muslims to stage tempestuous demonstrations in Karnataka's streets. The demonstrators went to the newspaper's head offices and tried to burn them and then clashed with Hindus. As usual, the police intervened and opened fire on the demonstrators.

Even though the said newspaper published an official apology and promised to pay reparations to the victims' families, and even though the minister of interior ordered the arrest of the paper's chief editor and asked the Muslim minority to exercise self-restraint and to accept the apology published by the paper, the situation is still tense and continues to pose the threat of an explosion in the near future.

India, where Muslims represent 11 percent of the population, has witnessed in recent months clashes between the Indians and Muslims which have claimed, according to the official statistics, nearly 150 victims.

The press rarely mentions these clashes between the Muslims and Indians because it is interested in what happens in Punjab Province and in the Sikhs' secessionist demands.

This discrimination at the information level reflects in fact the "ethnic" discrimination from which the minorities in Sri Lanka, Pakistan, and India suffer.

It is perhaps excessive to attribute the roots of these tense conditions exclusively to the historical enmity between "tribes" as announced by the ruling majority in these countries.

The Pakistani opposition blamed the Pakistani government for the recent riots in Karachi. Benazir Bhutto, who aspires to follow Aquino's footsteps, pointed out that the "search campaign carried out by the authorities has not resulted in arresting the major drug dealers but has contributed to igniting sedition between the tribes with the purpose of justifying the continued military rule and the martial law." Bhutto added: "We demand democratic elections because the absence of democracy is the factor that has contributed to creating these conditions.

The absence of democracy may be a factor that has contributed to this tribal fighting throughout the years. But backwardness at the various levels is one of the main factors that have helped create the right climate for the 20th century "Basus" wars.

SOUTHERN PARTIES RELEASE STATEMENT ON ADMINISTRATION OF SOUTH

Khartoum GUIDING STAR in English 19 Feb 87 p 4

[Text] On February 14, 1987 four Southern political parties issued the following joint statement on the administration of Southern Sudan.

The four parties are Southern Sudan Political Association (SSPA), Sudan African Congress (SAC), Sudan African Peoples Congress (SAPCO) and Sudan Peoples Federal Party (SPFP).

We would like the Sudanese people to understand that we have no personal quarrels with Mr. Matthew Ubur Ayang or those Southern Sudanese appointed into his government by Mr. Sadiq-al-Mahdi, the Prime Minister.

It is Mr. Sadiq-al-Mahdi, the Prime Minister and his government that we hold responsible for all the stand-still that will be the lot of the Sudanese democratic movement because of gross violation of the provision of the National Transitional Constitution and the 6th April established democratic practices in their unlawful and unjustified resolve to usurp the right of the self-government peoples of the Southern Sudan to elect and/or appoint their government.

Unconstitutional and Undemocratic Government

(a) The system of government in the Sudan is governed by the provisions of the Transitional Constitution, 1985. In the case of the government set up in the Southern Sudan, Article 16(2) applies, which specifically states that the Southern Sudan has to be governed as provided for under the Southern Provinces Self-Government Act, 1972, based on the Addis Ababa Agreement by which the right of the people of the Southern Sudan to responsible self-government, was acknowledged and recognized. This is the law that brought the 17-year civil war (1955-1972) between North and South to an end....This is the same Act which made it possible for North and South to live in peace for ten years (1972-1982)....A responsible Southern Government gets elected by the Peoples Regional Assembly and, in case of absence of Assembly, by the Southern Sudan political parties in consultation with the Prime Minister. Such a responsible Southern Sudan Government or Provisional High Executive Council or Interim Administrative Council must take an oath before the Head of State and is relieved of office by the Head of State. It is accountable

to the Head of State through the Prime Minister. The agreement of the Southern Political parties which was given to the Prime Minister through Head of State on 31. 1. 1987 confirms this procedure of appointment of a responsible Southern Sudan Government by Southern Sudan Political Parties in consultation with the Prime Minister.

Mr. Sadiq al-Mahdi overlooked these important constitutional provisions and proceeded to appoint Mr Matthew Ubur and his team as if they were super-scale officials. Having nor consulted the political parties of his appointees, Mr Sadiq al-Mahdi became the sole responsible authority on the members of this government in a way in which he is not even responsible for super-scale officials who are protected by their trade unions.

Disrespect for Democratic System

Mr Sadiq al-Mahdi negotiated and appointed Mr Matthew Ubur and the members of his government either as independents or as members of political parties which the Prime Minister did not think fit to be consulted. It is sad that this leader who claims to be a democrat appointed members of SSPA into the government of Mr Matthew Ubur without consulting SSPA leadership while SSPA is a partner in his government. The first person to work for the respect for the liberal democracy established by 6th April Uprising 1985 should be Mr Sadiq al-Mahdi who has been heard saying that the Sudan is more democratic than other African countries.

Programme for the Southern Council

(a) A Southern Sudan Government based on unknown laws with suspicious programmes will start off as a handful of hirelings, and would be a liability in the solution of Sudanese National Problems.

(b) Some of the responsibilities in this government are going to be a liability for whatever they were expected to do! War or Peace.

(c) Our aim should be to stop the war in the Southern Sudan, convene the National Constitutional Conference and embark on the rehabilitation of the Sudanese economy on all fronts. Such difficult projects like these should be carried out by leaders who are carefully selected and processed by their parties in consultation with the Prime Minister.

(d) Mr Sadiq al-Mahdi, when he set up his national government appeared understanding, and hopeful. His conduct with regard to appointment of the government of Mr Matthew Ubur appears to be that of a desparate hopeless leader. We are of the opinion that there is no need for despair.

Sudanese National Unity

We all know that unity is strength and division leads to weakness. Every one of us must work for the unity of the Sudanese people. Those engaged in public affairs, must examine their conduct as to whether it cements or disrupts national unity.

All Sudanese citizens, Muslims, Christians, animists must work for one another's physical safety and engage in productive work for the good of all. Whatever does not contribute to our national unity must be stopped.

Civil War Must Be Stopped

Sudanese recent history, 1947 to date has shown that all the Sudanese love the Sudan and are resolved to build one united Sudan.

Generals Ibrahim Abboud 1958 to 1964 and Gaafar Mohammed Nimeiry and some Muslim Sudanese statesmen have been toying with the idea of waging war against the peoples of the Southern Sudan to compel them bow to dictatorial rule in the name of Islamic religion. Generals Abboud and Nimeiry have been disappointed by the Sudanese democratic movement in 1964 and 1985.

The Sudanese people are yet called upon to join hands in restoration of democratic process to the whole of the Sudan. This means that the stoppage of war in any part of the Sudan must be our goal so that our fellow citizens resort to productive pursuits.

Sudanese people should govern themselves with laws that they make themselves. There should be freedom of worship. Religion should be separate from State institutions.

The parties of the special class of Sudanese, which want to exploit the Sudanese religious beliefs to establish a dictatorship should be well identified. Muslims, even in the Arab World, have not made one nation. Our unity is not based on religion, but on our respect for agreements respecting our diverse cultures.

General Ibrahim Abboud started the Islamic religious war against the peoples of the Southern Sudan and prosecuted it for six years without success though the Southerners started with stones, bows, arrows and spears.

General Gaafar Mohammed Nimeiry could not annihilate 'his' absorbed Christian Anya-Nya soldiers that were in his camps in Bor, Pibor and Fachalla.

Every day, we hear of claims and counter-claims of victory by the Sudanese Army or the SPLM/SPLA. Yet it is clear that there is no hope that the civil war will end up with victory in the fields of battles.

Reasons for this stalemate seem simple. In our view, the Sudanese Army and the SPLM/SPLA are fighting for unity after the fact. The Sudanese people have failed to achieve lasting unity, stability and resort to productive pursuits because they have been deceived and tricked to be governed dictatorially by Generals Ibrahim Abboud, Gaafar Mohammed Nimeiry and by some politicians today in the name of Islamic Sharia. They have exposed and thrown away the cheats who exploited them while hiding behind the Islamic religion. They are yet called upon to march quickly to democracy, unity and productive pursuits by stopping the civil war in the Sudan; and to allow the Southern Sudanese people to enjoy the fruits of freedom, equality and responsible self-government within the United Sudan in accordance with the Addis Ababa Agreement,

1972. This will not be a result of any victory on the side of any one faction for or against the pretended Islamic Holy War, but a citizens' popular resolution to translate unity to mean doing good for one another.

Effect Of Civil War

The Sudanese leaders who want to govern the Sudan dictatorially, while hiding behind Allah and His Book as all Muslim dictators do, have embarked on this civil war and have brought death to the Sudanese citizens by the bullet, disease and hunger. Some Sudanese people have run to neighbouring African countries and to the Northern Sudan in search of physical safety, food and medicine. The authorities and the general public and Voluntary Agencies are doing their best to receive and feed these displaced persons whether in the Sudan or elsewhere. But the true solution to the problems of the displaced Sudanese lies in the action to be taken by the Sudanese people to stop the war and help the displaced persons to return to their homes in the South or Western Sudan...This is how to empty the capital, Khartoum, and at the same time maintain the respect of fell low citizens in the rural areas.

Armed Groups To Engage In Production

There are a number of armed groups in the Sudan. At the moment, most of them are not engaged in productive pursuits. Those in the towns may continue to live in peace as long as there is something for them in the countryside to live upon; but otherwise it should be our duty all the haves and haves-not to see that the war is stopped and all engage in productive pursuits.

Civil War And Relation With Neighbours

Continuted civil war in the Sudan is affecting our relations with our neighbours some of whom care very little, about friendship with weak states. But if we stop the war and follow policies of various cultures, it will be possible for our neighbours to take our friendship with them genuinely for common interests.

Southern Political Parties' Opposition To Mr Sadiq's Government

All the Sudanese who are politically aware, are shocked at the manner in which Mr Sadiq al-Mahdi, as a Prime Minister and his government, have disrespected continuously and persistently the provisions of the Transitional Constitution 1985 and the Southern Provinces self-Government Act, 1972. That some Southern Sudan political leaders have accepted to join the govenment of Mr Matthew Ubur Ayang, which is a manifestation of disrespect for the rights of the people of the Southern Sudan to self-government, should not be taken as a submission or acceptance to the pretentions of Mr Sadiq al-Mahdi and his government to deprive the Southern Sudan of its right to responsible self-government. They have gone in hoping that they might do their best for their people who are exposed to death by the bullet, disease and famine. But, this could have been achieved by a government set up as agreed by Southern Sudan Political Parties and which would command respect from the Sudanese Army and SPLA.

SSPA, has seen that the activities of Mr Sadiq al-Mahdi since he became Prime Minister, do not lead to the stoppage of the civil war but to its intensification and that he appears determined to use the civil war to establish a dictatorship in the name of Islamic religion.

Our opposition to the government of Mr Sadiq al-Mahdi will be directed at:

(a) stopping the civil war either by the National government or by the responsible Southern Sudan government established in accordance with the provisions of Article 16

(2) of the National Transitional Constitution, 1985;

(b) to expose the reluctance of Mr Sadiq al-Mahdi's government to create circumstances which will make the convening of the National Constitutional Conference meaningful;

(c) to expose the continuous undemocratic and unconstitutional policies of Mr Sadiq al-Mahdi's government; and

(d) to expose the lies of the government of Mr Sadiq al-Mahdi that it is not delivering death to the Southern population, but goods.

/12828
CSO: 4500/70

PAPER SHORTAGE REPORTED TO THREATEN PRESS

Khartoum SUDAN TIMES in English 22 Feb 87 p 1

[Text] At a preliminary meeting of more than ten Sudanese Newspaper owners held at El Usboua Daily Paper Offices on Thursday 19th February the question of newspaper production materials was at the top of the agenda. In a unified front the publishers, quite rightly, are determined to raise the matter of paper and other supporting items with the highest levels of government in order to include these items as top priority among other national requirements like medicines, industrial items, food and energy. Without the support of the government under existing foreign exchange laws there is no chance for any newspapers or indeed any educational books to be published in a few weeks time. It will then look ludicrous for a democratic system to be without newspapers.

Whatever, the government or leaders of the Sudanese newspapers say about their standard it must be realised that the owners and publishers consider it a miracle that they appear at all. Victimised by the black marketeering in the printing materials the majority of these papers do not make ends meet.

The Minister of Commerce method of controlling illegal hoarding of materials by speculators should be applied to printing paper and declared immediately. Figures reaching his Ministry are considerably smaller than he was made to understand. Therefore immediate arrangements should be made for consignments of printing paper to be obtained either through commodity export, local payment to aiding countries who are working on projects which require local currencies, or by allowing those who were in the habit of obtaining funds from Sudanese working abroad to airfreight limited quantities across the Red Sea to save the situation now. We appreciate that this last resort, which to all intents and purposes is nil-value will not be accepted under the existing laws which forebid the nil-value. It is however time for second thoughts.

/12828
CSO: 4500/70

BIOGRAPHY OF NEW MINISTER OF LIGHT INDUSTRIES

Baghdad AL-THAWRAH in Arabic 22 Feb 87 p 4

[Text] A sketch of the life of Mr Hatim 'Abd-al-Rashid, minister of light industries:

--Born in Salah-al-Din Governorate in 1940.

--Married, has four children.

--He completed his primary and intermediate studies in Tikrit and his secondary studies in Baghdad.

--He graduated from the College of Administration at Baghdad University, with a Bachelor's degree in General Administration, 1962-1963. He obtained a Bachelor's degree in Law 1965-1966 from the College of Jurisprudence, also at Baghdad University.

--He received a scholarship to obtain a master's degree from the University of Texas, Houston, in the United States in 1966, and obtained the master's degree in administration in 1969.

--He worked as general director of the Public Company for Vegetable Oils for 5 years, as president of the General Organization for Food Industries for 5 years, a senior undersecretary for the Ministry of Commerce for 5.5 years, as president of the Iraqi Industries Federation for 7 years, and as president of the Federation of Iraqi Chambers of Commerce for 5 years.

--He was unanimously elected general director of the Arab Organization for Industrial Development in 1983. He still holds this same position.

/6662
CSO: 4404/258

NEW MEASURES AIM AT BOLSTERING SOUTH LEBANESE ARMY

TA201123 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 20 Feb 87 p 2

[Report by David Rudge]

[Text] Metulla--The IDF has extended basic training courses for new recruits to the South Lebanese Army [SLA] from four to eight weeks to boost efficiency and bolster morale, THE JERUSALEM POST has learned.

Discipline has also been stepped up, and veteran troops are receiving rigorous refresher courses, with particular emphasis on how to defend strategic hilltop positions.

The moves are designed to better acquaint the troops with their weapons and equipment, and improve preparedness and speed of response.

The latest measures are particularly aimed at combating the tactics used by Shi'ite extremists in the recent wave of attacks against SLA positions.

According to senior military sources, 35 SLA soldiers have been killed in the past six months -- 22 of them in defence of fortified hilltop posts.

There were a total of 29 terrorist attacks on the strongholds during the same period, of which seven were successful, the sources said.

The tide, however, now appears to be turning in favor of the defenders, following the new training methods.

Since the beginning of January, IDF and SLA forces have killed over 40 terrorists, mainly from the Iranian-backed Hizballah movement, and wounded dozens more. Correspondingly, there has been a marked decrease in the number and frequency of terrorist attacks.

The military sources warned, however, that the Hizballah could not be written off.

For the time being the SLA had found the means to combat the attacks, he said.

But this did not mean that the terrorists would stop their attacks, or that they would not find new ways of hitting at the IDF and SLA forces inside the security zone.

The recent successes of the SLA have coincided with a mass of applications to enlist.

SLA commander Gen Antoine Lahd, in a recent interview with Israeli reporters at his headquarters near Marj 'Uyun, said the morale boosting defeats inflicted on the terrorists were not the only reasons for the influx of new recruits.

The biggest inducement, he said, was the decision to increase wages by paying soldiers in dollars rather than in Lebanese currency.

Previously, soldiers had been receiving the equivalent of \$40 a month because of the continuing devaluation of the Lebanese pound.

Now the minimum pay for a new recruit is \$100 a month, which, although low by Israeli standards, is sufficient for a soldier to live on and support his family.

Lahd said the SLA now had more than 2,500 troops, while the number of those enlisting was "more than we can cope with or require."

Summarizing the two years since the withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanon, Lahd said he saw no need for changes.

Questions had been raised in Israel about the credibility of the SLA and its ability to deal with the security situation in the buffer zone. "There are now facts on which to judge whether this arrangement has benefited Israel or not," Lahd said.

"I would also ask the following questions: How many Israeli lives have been saved because of this arrangement? How many casualties have the SLA suffered compared to the IDF, and, on that basis, is it in the interests of Israel to keep the security zone?

"The security zone can only be a temporary arrangement. It cannot last forever. What happens in the future will depend greatly on Israel's strategy towards Lebanon. [no closing quotation marks published]

/12624
CSO: 4400/155

POLL INDICATES INCREASED SUPPORT FOR ALIGNMENT

TA131414 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 13 Feb 87 p 1

[Text] The Alignment, together with the small parties leaning toward it, reaches almost 50 percent of the voters today, whereas the Likud and the parties that are close to it would receive a little less than one-third of the votes. These are the main findings of an election poll conducted by the PORI Institute for HA'ARETZ during the third week of January.

Were the elections to be held today, the Alignment would receive 42.3 percent of the votes. The parties close to it would receive 6.6 percent; 48.9 percent altogether.

Only 23.7 percent would vote for the Likud today, and the small parties close to it would receive 7.6 percent; 31.3 percent of the vote altogether.

The religious parties have dropped from 11.4 percent in the last elections to 10.9 percent at present.

Some 82.7 percent of those who voted Alignment in the last election said they would do so again, as opposed to 63.2 percent who would do so again for the Likud. Some 12.3 percent of those who voted Likud in the last election said they would vote Alignment this time, whereas only 3.3 percent of those who voted Alignment in the last election said they would vote Likud this time.

Some 17.3 percent of the Likud voters and 5.8 percent of Alignment voters in the last election said they do not know who they would vote for this time.

Some 21.1 percent did not answer; 10 percent said they do not know who they would vote for and 11.1 percent refused to say who they would vote for.

The poll included a representative sample of 1,200 adult male and female Jews, who were interviewed in person and confidentially in all parts of the country.

	Jan 87	11th Knesset	Change
Alignment	42.3	37.1	5.2
Pro Alignment	6.6	5.1	1.5
Likud	23.7	31.9	-8.2
Pro Likud	7.6	5.2	2.4
Religious	10.9	11.4	-0.5
Others	5.9	6.4	-0.5

/12624

CSO: 4400/155

BRIEFS

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE--Deputy Prime Minister and Education Minister Yitzhaq Navon has returned from Spain. He said that Spain is now prepared to play an active role in the peace process in the Middle East, but only together with other countries and not at its own initiative. Referring to the current government situation, Navon said this is not the time for holding elections in Israel. Our correspondent Dan Eshel reports that Mr Navon stated he wants this government to serve its full term. In the deputy prime minister's opinion, there are differences of opinion over the need to conduct direct negotiations for peace. The only difference lies in the fact that the Alignment believes that an international conference is a good means leading to direct negotiations, on condition that such a conference does not impose a solution. He added that the Likud has no reason to fear such a conference. Mr Navon quoted Prime Minister Shamir as having said in a Cabinet session that explorations can be made. If explorations can be made, then one can also talk, Mr Navon pointed out. [Text] [Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 12 Feb 87 TA] /12624

FIRST ARAB DIPLOMAT--The first Arab diplomat in the Israeli foreign service: Our political correspondent reports that the Foreign Ministry Appointment Committee has approved the appointment of Muhammad Masrawah to the post of consul general in Atlanta, the United States. Masrawan, 45, is from Kafr Qari' and is a graduate of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. [Text] [TA091810 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 9 Feb 87]

EMBASSY IN PRETORIA TO 'LOWER PROFILE'--Alon Li'el, who heads the South African desk in the Foreign Ministry and who is also an aide to Political Director General Yosi Beilin, left late last week for Pretoria, where he conferred with leaders of black organizations fighting for the elimination of the apartheid regime. Li'el was asked to brief the Israeli Embassy in Pretoria and instruct it to "lower the profile" in regard to relations with the white administration, a policy also advocated by Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir on the eve of his departure for the United States, where he will be asked to answer serious questions on Israeli-South African ties. The first report on this issue was released in the United States last week, and it included sharp criticism of Israel for its relations with the apartheid regime. At the same time, Tourism Minister Avraham Sharir conferred yesterday with South Africa's new ambassador to Israel, Anton Loubser, and promised to take action to strengthen bilateral tourism ties in order to "build a bridge" between them in other areas as well. Tourism Ministry Director General Rafi Farber rejected the Foreign Ministry's demand that the invitation to the South African Foreign Ministry's director general

be canceled. The two held a meeting this week in which they discussed promoting relations between the two ministries. This HA'ARETZ correspondent notes that in a document submitted to the prime minister with proposals for sanctions against South Africa, tourism appears in the most "modest" category because the volume of tourism from South Africa to Israel is in any case very limited. Last year, 20,000 tourists came from South Africa, but most of them were Jews en route to Europe who prefer to stop over in this country because this is a particularly inexpensive flight route. [Text] [Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 18 Feb 87 pp 1, 7 TA] /12624

TRADE GAP INCREASES--Israel registered a steep \$267.6 million trade deficit last month--a nearly 82 percent jump from year-earlier levels--largely because of the sharp rise in imports, the Central Bureau of Statistics reported yesterday. It also reported that exports for the month came to \$554.4m., a 3.6 percent gain from January 1985. On a seasonally adjusted basis, however, the trade picture was brighter. Exports were up 9 percent from the average of the previous two months to \$432.5m., leaving the trade gap at \$295.7m., down 7 percent from the November-December average. The figures point up the widening trade gap over the course of last year. The bureau noted that the November-December trade deficit was 70 percent wider than the average for July through October. The export figures, too, were also indicative of a weakening trade picture. While exports were up on a seasonally adjusted basis in January from the previous two months, the bureau noted that the November and December average figure was down 20 percent from July-October export levels. The widening deficit came from soaring imports. Sunday, the bureau released figures showing January imports to stand at \$822m., a 20.5 percent jump from a year ago. Consumer goods, which comprised \$95m. of the January total, showed the biggest gain, rising 62.6 percent. [Text] [Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 10 Feb 87 p 3 TA] /12624

SEPTEMBER-DECEMBER 1986 UNEMPLOYMENT--Unemployment fell to 6.6 percent of the overall work force, in the last quarter of 1986, down slightly from 6.7 percent for the same period in 1985, the Central Office for Statistics reported yesterday. Unemployment reached a high of 7.9 percent in the April-June period, while the annual rate came to 7.1 percent, compared with 6.7 percent in 1985, the bureau said. In the October-December 1986 period 6.5 percent of the male work-force over the age of 15 was out of work and 6.7 percent of females. In the April-June quarter, the proportion of women out of work reached 9.3 percent, compared with 7 percent for men. The figures include only those unemployed who actively looked for work. [Text] [Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 9 Feb 87 p 7 TA] /12624

INDUSTRIAL AGREEMENT WITH BELGIUM--Israeli Industry and Trade Minister Ari'el Sharon and Belgian Communications, Posts, and Foreign Trade Minister Herman De Croo have agreed to step up Israeli-Belgian industrial relations. The two countries will also cooperate on projects in other countries and will set up a joint fund for industrial cooperation. Sharon and De Croo have also agreed on coordination in the diamond industry. [Summary] [Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 27 Feb 87 p A5 TA] /12624

TRADE ACCORD WITH PARAGUAY--Israel and Paraguay have signed a trade and economic cooperation agreement that will increase commercial ties between them. The accord was signed by David Morag, Israel's ambassador to Paraguay, and Foreign Minister Dr Carlos Saldivar. The agreement stipulates that the two countries will encourage technical and economic cooperation and will grant each other "most favored nation" status. Similarly, special status will be granted to joint projects, and the two countries will avoid double taxation. The accord will remain in effect for 10 years, and a special binational committee has been established to supervise it. [Text] [Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 18 Feb 87 p 9 TA] /12624

GAZA DETENTION FACILITY--The "Ansar-2" detention camp in central Gaza has been reopened and now holds some 80 detainees, mostly school children from Khan Yunus and Gaza. Only a month and a half ago military sources announced that the temporary detention camp had been closed. A military source told HADASHOT that since the camp was reopened, conditions at the facility have improved; in fact, conditions there today are much better than those in the Gaza prison. According to the source, the detainees are treated well. Most of the camp detainees are students from the high schools in Khan Yunus and Gaza. They were detained during the dispersal of mass demonstrations at the Islamic University in Gaza and during student riots in the city center in which eight students were slightly injured. [Excerpt] [Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 22 Feb 87 p 4 TA] /12624

NEW MAYOR IN BI'R ZAYT--The head of the Civilian Administration today appointed Mansur Shahin to the post of Bi'r Zayt mayor. Also appointed were four other members to the municipality council. During the last 5 years Bi'r Zayt was without a municipality. [Text] [Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1500 GMT 23 Feb 87 TA] /12624

CSO: 4400/155

ISLAMIC SUMMIT HOLDS HOPES FOR ARAB SUMMIT

London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic 4-10 Feb 87 pp 17-18

[Article by Wahib Muhammad Gharrab: "The Kuwait Summit Ends And Mediation Begins"]

[Text] Once the fifth Islamic summit conference in Kuwait ended, attention turned to the pan-Arab summit and how to ensure its success, especially since the five-nation mini-summit which met on the sidelines of the Islamic summit and was attended by five Arab leaders (King Fahd, King Husayn, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad, President Benjedid Chadli and President Hafiz al-Asad) had removed some of the obstacles to this Arab summit and had reinforced hopes that it could be convened.

For Egyptian President Husni Mubarak and Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad to be in the same meeting hall, regardless of all the talk about whether they actually met or not, was an important step towards this summit. Similarly, the recent meeting between Presidents al-Asad and al-Jumayyil will help smooth the way to solving the Lebanese crisis, and will inevitably be a precursor for other meetings between the two sides after a period of interruption.

Those who followed the five-leader meeting at the conference hall came away with the impression that this meeting was useful in that it confirmed the desire of five powerful Arab leaders to get together and discuss many of the issues obstructing the progress of joint Arab action. An Arab foreign minister informed as to what went on in the discussions commented, "A single session cannot solve all the problems, but this session was necessary because it dealt with pivotal issues a mutual understanding of which could lead to the pan-Arab summit."

This minister believes that the Arab summit could convene in April 1987 if the efforts and contacts now under way succeed in settling two main issues, the first being the question of Syrian and PLO participation in the summit, and the second being the participation of President Husni Mubarak and King Hasan II. Observers have noticed that while President al-Asad greeted his

Egyptian counterpart President Mubarak, he did not greet PLO Executive Council Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, and left the hall when the Palestinian leader began delivering his speech to the assembly. This departure was explained as being not a walk-out, but a departure in order to take part in an important meeting on the sidelines of the summit.

A Positive Picture

A prominent Palestinian official expressed his belief that the picture was not as gloomy as the news agencies made it. He said that the PLO is not the only party in Arab disputes, and is always trying to settle these disagreements. The PLO supports any meeting between Arabs, a stand which was the basis for the meeting between King Husayn and Yasir 'Arafat. He said that the PLO is all for rapprochement with Syria, and added that if the efforts made on the summit sidelines do not succeed in settling Syrian-Palestinian disagreements, then the atmosphere of Arab reconciliation, which has improved somewhat on the Egyptian-Syrian level, will definitely lead to settling Palestinian-Syrian disagreements if it takes its proper course.

Observers paused a long time over the speeches of Presidents al-Asad and Mubarak. The Syrian president, who criticized the Camp David agreements and President al-Sadat, did not touch directly on President Mubarak's policies or measures. Likewise, in his speech the Egyptian president avoided any criticism of Syria and its policies. Observers feel that these two steps are a positive sign which in the near future could bear fruit by bringing the two countries closer together. Official contacts between the two countries on the foreign minister and chancellor level have been no secret, even though they have been denied. Therefore, the coming days are expected to see quiet activity on the part of the Arabs in order to benefit from the positive results of the Arab mini-summit in Kuwait.

Even-Handed Resolutions

Although the above-mentioned rivalry had thwarted, or more properly prevented, harmony during the fifth Islamic summit in Kuwait, the very fact that the summit even met, as the Gulf war's escalation reached its peak, was in itself the greatest success of all. This summit was held on the outskirts of the war, in the shadow of a military escalation aimed at changing existing military and political equations and imposing unacceptable conditions on the Muslim leaders and the guest states. However, none of these attempts were successful. It had been hoped that the fifth summit would be the one which would resolve the Gulf war, but the fact that Iran stayed away, even though Kuwait wanted it to attend and participate, prevented the achievement of this goal. Nevertheless, the summit's resolutions on the Gulf war were quite even-handed, and reflected the Muslim leaders' desire to find a peaceful settlement for this war. The conference called on both countries to stop fighting, to return to the international boundaries, and to solve the conflict through negotiations, and praised the Islamic Endeavors Commission's efforts to stop the war.

Opinions differed as to how the Islamic Endeavors Commission was dealing with this war and how it would stop it. Some delegations, including the Iraqi delegation, felt that this commission should be dissolved. An Iraqi official explained his country's request by saying, "This request of ours shows that our stand is realistic. Since over the past 6 years the commission has been unable to carry out its mission, and has deviated from its basic function, what is the use of its carrying on?"

Iraq feels that the commission has gotten lost in the maze of dealing with bombing raids on cities, prisoner exchanges, and chemical warfare, and thus has become incapable of facing its main task, stopping the war. But many other countries oppose this Iraqi viewpoint, particularly the GCC states, which feel that the commission must carry on. It was mentioned repeatedly in the conference working papers that Pakistan had changed its neutral stance towards the war, but Pakistani President Zia-ul-Haq told AL-MAJALLAH that no such change had taken place, and said that his country is continuing its efforts to stop the war. Many of the Arab and Muslim leaders who addressed the summit drew a connection between ending the Iraq-Iran war and ending other conflicts. The Jordanian king expressed this most eloquently when he said, "Stopping this war will be the key to resolving other conflicts in the Islamic world, because the main purpose behind continuing this war is to pre-occupy the Arabs and the Muslims."

The Jerusalem Commission

Another point of disagreement was the issue of Morocco's chairing the Jerusalem Commission. The Jordanian king clearly wanted to become chairman of the commission should reports that King Hasan II wanted to give up his chairmanship be confirmed. However, upon contacting Morocco, it became clear that there was some doubt about this issue. The Moroccan king had not resigned from the Jerusalem Commission but had resigned as chairman of the seven-member committee formed to explain the Arab peace plan, and King Hasan II confirmed his country's desire to chair the commission.

Among the other resolutions taken by the summit and approved by observers was the resolution to conduct a comprehensive review of the Islamic Conference Organization and its financial difficulties, the withholding of approval for any new budget for its subsidiary organizations, and the imposition of a policy of asceticism in the US\$8 million budget. Some Islamic countries said that they were not paying their commitments to the organization because of their dissatisfaction with the organization's general situation and the way it has spent its allocations in the past.

The Kuwait summit was attended by high-level Arab and Islamic representatives. Most presidents attended it, especially those who had not attended the previous Islamic summit in Casablanca. This in itself was a tribute to Kuwait and to the success of its efforts. The Kuwaiti government had hoped that the conference would be doubly successful in both the Islamic and the Arab contexts--in other words, that an Arab summit, which would review important Arab issues, would be held on the sidelines of the Islamic summit. However, the split into two sides prevented the achievement of this goal, and Kuwait satisfied itself with the five-member summit.

Egypt's presence at the summit after several years of isolation created a certain stir, especially since an argument over Egypt's participation had broken out during the preparatory meeting, which was attended by the foreign ministers of Islamic countries. However, the skillfulness of Kuwaiti Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad, who was in charge of this meeting, helped overcome this problem, particularly when he said that Egypt's participation in the summit was not subject to debate.

It can be said that the Kuwait summit was successful in that it actually convened, and because even though it did not settle the problems on the agenda, it directly contributed to a review of these problems and found new jumping-off points for solutions in keeping with recent developments. As for the Middle East issue, the summit backed the idea of the international conference. With regard to Afghanistan, it demanded a Soviet withdrawal, formulating this request differently in keeping with recent developments. It also demanded a stop to the war of the camps, without going into any details which might embarrass any party.

In short, the Kuwait summit was a challenge which Kuwait accepted, thus proving its capabilities fittingly.

8559
CSO: 4404/234

MOSCOW DIRECTOR OF KUWAITI NEWS AGENCY ON REGIONAL ISSUES

Moscow MOSCOW NEWS in English 1-8 Feb 87 p 5

[Text]

Such is the view of Khalid AL-TARRAH, director of the Moscow office of the Kuwait News Agency (KUNA), interviewed by MN correspondent Nikolai Zaborin.

N.Z.: The past year brought many hardships and difficulties for the Middle East. The American bombing of Libya, the campaign of threats against Syria, Israel's fresh reprisals in the occupied territories which saw the biggest unrest among the Indigenous Palestinian population for many years, and other dangerous events. Their enumeration has no connection with the word "peace". But, as they say, a negative result is also a result, if only because it suggests definite conclusions.

Take the uncovering of secret American arms shipments to Iran. Even the Americans' European allies have started to talk about loss of credibility of Washington's policy. This duplicity of the USA is indisputable: on the one hand, there are public statements about neutrality in the Iran-Iraq conflict, on the other, there is covert encouragement of the bloodshed.

Even before "Irangate" some analysts had arrived at the conclusion that the American standing in the Arab world was being eroded of late. This is associated both with Washington's avowedly pro-Israel policy and with a definite fall of the USA's interest in the oil-extracting Arab countries in the light of the latter-day oversaturation of the oil market. As I see it, the uncovering of the American arms shipments to Iran will cause a further erosion of the US standing in the region.

Kh.T.: About the Iran-Iraq conflict, it is self-evident, of course, that the Soviet Union has demonstrated its complete readiness to assist its ending.

It should be re-emphasized that this war serves the interests of the enemies of Arab and Moslem nations, primarily those of Israel. Tel Aviv has made persistent efforts to limit the

capabilities of the Arab states, aggravate tensions and sharpen the conflict between the two Moslem states to remove them from the main arena of the struggle against Zionist expansion.

As far as the USA is concerned, although it has called on both sides to end the bloodshed, in practice, as the facts have shown, it wants the conflict to continue. It does this with a view to strengthening its standing in the region and using the conflict as a pretext for interfering, if it needs this, in the affairs of states in that region. Moreover, the continuation of the conflict creates a vast market for the West to sell its arms.

Added to this are the recent press reports that indicate that definite Arab circles knew about the Iran arms deal but did nothing about it. Moreover, it has been disclosed, for instance, that the Saudi billionaire Adnan Hashshogi acted as a broker in the arms shipments to Teheran. It is indicative that we have felt no serious response in the Arab world on this score.

In other words, what seems to be a sensation is in reality not a sensation at all. That's why "Irangate", I believe, will not shake the American standing in the region.

Generally speaking, no analyst can deny that the states of the Arab world have now been gripped by acute contradictions, one of the major reasons of which is the Iran-Iraq war.

N.Z.: Let us turn to the Arab-Israel conflict. Itzhak Shamir is once again the Prime Minister of Israel. He is known to favour the "classical" Camp David option: no territorial concessions and active continuation of the annexation of the occupied territories. I believe that even those Arab circles that were under the illusion that Israel could make some concessions to the Arabs, whereas the USA would pressure it into taking that step, have now dropped the illusion.

On the other hand, support has been growing lately for the proposal to hold an international conference on the Middle East which is seen as the only feasible opportunity to achieve a just settlement of the Middle East conflict. As the recent voting at the UN has shown, a clear majority of countries favour its convocation and the establishment of a preparatory committee for the conference within the framework of the Security Council.

Kh.T.: I agree that there is no alternative to an international conference which could provide a comprehensive and equitable solution to the Middle East conflict.

A serious obstacle in the way to the convocation of this conference is the US-backed obstinacy of Israel which is out to foil any international act that could be instrumental in settling the Arab-Israel conflict on a comprehensive and fair basis. Moreover, some West European countries have taken a shy stand on the question of convening an international conference, preferring to follow in the backwash of American policy.

Today there is a need to work for greater rapprochement between the Arab states and to build a broad common front which would put paid to the differences existing among the Arab states and eliminate the differences among the Palestinians. If this aim is reached, this would facilitate and accelerate the convocation of an international conference on the Middle East.

N.Z.: How do you on the whole appraise the prospects of the current year for the Middle East?

Kh.T.: 1987 will be a tense year for the region. It is clear that Israel will not stop at the already achieved level of expansion. Moreover, the USA and Israel will continue attempts to foist separate deals on Arab countries. Although in recent time such attempts have suffered a fiasco, the "strategic allies", I believe, have not fallen into despair and will mount new ones.

As to the Iran-Iraq conflict, I think that 1987 will be the last year of this war.

N.Z.: What leads you to this conclusion?

Kh.T.: Although it is Iraq and Iran alone that are directly involved in the conflict, its consequences affect the interests of neighbour-

ring countries, notably those in the Persian Gulf.

Assessments in the foreign, including Soviet, press indicate that neither of the sides will emerge victorious in this war. And any of Iran's successes in the conflict will be temporary because the Gulf states understand that the Iranian danger threatens not only Iran, but also all the states in the region. Therefore they will not accept any change whatsoever in the overall balance of strength in the region. I think that this is understood in Iran as well.

A summit meeting within the framework of the Organization of the Islamic Conference should take place in Kuwait this January. A number of strongly-worded statements have already been made about the conflict in the Gulf zone. I shall mention, in particular, one of the recent statements by Kuwait's Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Sabah who said that either this forum would be productive in the sense of putting an end to the war between Iran and Iraq or it will be the last Islamic meeting.

These statements and tendencies bear witness to the serious desire of several states, Kuwait among them, to apply great efforts to end the conflict. In what form will it take place? The details are still to be worked out. But I am convinced that 1987 will be the year of an end to this war.

N.Z.: The USSR's stand in regard to the Iran-Iraq conflict has been confirmed in a recent statement by the Soviet government, which says, among other things, that generally recognized standards of international law and order should be placed at the basis of settlement, above all the principles of mutual respect for sovereignty, territorial integrity, non-interference in each other's affairs, as well as reaffirmation of the frontiers that existed between Iraq and Iran before the beginning of the conflict. The two countries should proceed from the principle that every people has the right to independence and freedom, the right to choose its own way of life and to shape its future.

An early settlement of the conflict would meet the interests of all countries in the region. It would mark an important step towards general improvement in the international situation.

/12828
CSO: 4400/160

SECURITY SITUATION DESCRIBED AS 'NORMAL'

Kuwait ARAB TIMES in English 17 Feb 87 p 1

[Text] KUWAIT'S Interior Minister, Sheikh Nawaf Al Ahmed, has said that the situation in Kuwait is normal and nothing can disrupt it.

He added that all the people in Kuwait are "securitymen" and always help the security forces who accept this cooperation and respond greatly to it.

Speaking to newsmen in Muscat yesterday after the end of the GCC interior ministers' meeting, Sheikh Nawaf said that the matter of those recently arrested will be left to justice.

Aimed

He said that there were, undoubtedly, some extremist elements behind the terrorist acts and these elements wanted to disrupt the atmosphere during the Fifth Islamic Summit Conference. He added the summit was held on schedule and achieved great success despite all attempts to obstruct it.

Sheikh Nawaf said that the success of the arrangements for holding the summit was no surprise, it was the result of the cooperation of all with the government to provide the necessary security cover.

He also praised the cooperation extended by GCC states.

GCC Secretary-General, Abdullah Bishara, described the issue of the security strategy between GCC member states as a big achievement. He added that the strategy will unify the security positions, outlook and principles among GCC states.

Manpower

The strategy dealt with political security issues and had no relation with ordinary crimes, he said.

Bishara said that the strategy also dealt with issues relating to the training of national manpower to replace expatriate manpower, integration of information and security communication, and other matters.

He stressed that all these issues dealt with the abnormal situations in the region.

The Saudi Interior Minister Prince Naif Ibn Abdulaziz has described the results of the meeting in Muscat as good and positive, the Saudi Press Agency reported. He said that the ministers endorsed the project of Gulf security strategy after a thorough review.

"The strategy is comprehensive in terms of security matters and covers defence, social, education and information aspects. Moreover, it will be ready for implementation after its ratification by the GCC Supreme Council.

Chance

Prince Naif said the interior ministers emergency session provided a good chance to review security developments in the region.

Meanwhile, Omani Interior Minister Badr ION Saud Ibn Hareb, who addressed the final session, said the meeting's achievements were the fruits of efforts made in this direction and

reflected the will and determination of GCC leaders and their kind directives.

Later, GCC Assistant Secretary General for political affairs Ibrahim Subhi read the final statement of the emergency meeting.

Reviewed

It said that the ministers reviewed the security situation in the region and listened to a report by Sheikh Nawaf Al Ahmed on recent security developments in Kuwait.

The ministers expressed their full support to measures that had been taken by the Kuwaiti government to maintain security and stability and reasserted their readiness to take all necessary measures to secure the stability of the GCC countries.

/13104
CSO: 4400/153

MEASURES TAKEN TO PROTECT AIRCRAFT

Kuwait ARAB TIMES in English 17 Feb 87 p 3

[Text] THE Director-General of Civil Aviation Department, Sheikh Jaber Al Athbi has stressed the continuous and active measures taken to protect and guard Kuwaiti aircraft, saying that the department would not hesitate in supplying the airport with any equipment it may require in accordance with recommended measures by the IATA.

Increase

He said that 28,077 planes departed and arrived at Kuwait International Airport over the last year, carrying 2.6 million passengers.

He said that the department would increase the facilities offered to passengers regarding passport control and customs, ready for the summer rush. He added that charges for arrivals and departures at the airport had not yet been fixed.

Sheikh Jaber Al Athbi said that the Civil Aviation Department would take on Kuwaiti workers who had been trained at the Aviation Institute, and would also send them abroad for further training. The department was also planning to use computers for all its activities and was currently discussing their installation with the Ministry of Planning.

New terminal

He said that studies were under way for the construction of a new passenger terminal to meet the increasing passenger movement after the end of the century.

He added that the transit hotel at the airport would open in the next few days. The hotel, which will be run by the Kuwait Hotel Company, will have a capacity of 2,000 rooms, he said.

/13104

CSO: 4400/153

OECD OIL CONSUMPTION STATISTICS

Kuwait AL-SIYASAH in Arabic 13 Jan 87 p 7]

[Text] Figures published by the International Atomic Energy Agency (TAEA) in its monthly report on the petroleum market indicate that oil consumption in the member states of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) went up by 2.5 percent in 1986 to 43.8 million barrels daily, compared with 34 million barrels daily a year earlier.

However, the consumption figure for 1986 was still below the peak figure it reached in 1979.

The monthly report added that the consumption of OECD member states dropped consistently from the 1979 peak of 41.6 million barrels daily to 33.9 million barrels daily in 1983 and maintained that level in 1985. According to the same report, 80 percent of the 4.7 million barrels decrease in consumption between 1979 and 1985 was due to the use of heavy crude oil. It added that the rising consumption which began in the latter part of 1985 went even higher in 1986 in the wake of the drop in oil prices.

The consumption of crude oil by OECD member states is expected to go up by 2 percent in the first quarter of 1987 to hit 36.2 million barrels daily, compared to 35.5 million barrels daily during the corresponding period of last year.

The report further said that world oil supplies, excluding communist countries, amounted in the fourth quarter of 1986 to 46.9 million barrels daily, a drop of approximately 3 million barrels daily from the figure for the third quarter of the same year. This is due to the drop in production of crude oil by OPEC states. The world crude oil production in 1986 has been estimated at 47.6 million barrels daily, compared with 45.4 million barrels daily in 1985, while OPEC states maintained their daily production of 17.8 million barrels. The agency noted that Iraq's oil production, which now stands at 1.5 million barrels daily, is not expected to increase before the completion of Yanbui pipeline project, while Iran may have difficulty maintaining its daily production of 2.255 million barrels owing to its war losses. The agency also pointed out that the companies' oil reserves in the OECD region are estimated at 242 million tons, an increase of approximately 13 million tons compared with the corresponding period of 1986. This represents 97 days of future consumption.

OIL PIPELINE PROJECT UNDER CONSIDERATION

Kuwait AL-SIYASAH in Arabic 13 Jan 87 p 7

[Text] Petroleum officials in the private and public sectors in the Persian Gulf region are anxiously awaiting a decision by the government of Kuwait relative to the construction of a pipeline across Saudi Arabia for the export of Kuwaiti crude oil via the Red Sea.

Informed sources said such a decision may be announced within the next few months after this option has been thoroughly studied by Kuwaiti government officials. With the construction of this new pipeline, Kuwait should be able to export its crude oil by bypassing the Gulf and Hormuz Strait which Kuwaiti oil tankers currently use but which are endangered by the Iraqi-Iranian war.

The "Lloyds of London on List" reported that a project is being studied for extending a pipeline from southern Kuwait, via Saudi Arabia, to the Saudi crude oil pipeline which extends eastward and westward and transports crude oil to the port of Yanbu' on the Red Sea. Under this project, the Kuwaiti pipeline would link up with pumping station No 3 near the town of Khurays in the eastern region of Saudi Arabia.

The importance of the projected pipeline became evident last Tuesday (6 January) following the attack on the 238,570 ton Japanese oil tanker "Cosmo Jupiter" in the Gulf. Also attacked in the Gulf waters while dropping anchor were the tanker "World Dawn", which runs on the Kuwaiti crude oil line, and other oil tankers.

It is known that Kuwait, whose oil production, in compliance with OPEC recommendations, stands at 948,000 tons daily, sells most of its oil in the form of refined products, though it sells between 200,000 and 300,000 tons of crude oil.

Kuwait has not as yet invited bidders for the construction of the pipeline or secured the necessary equipment and materials for this construction project. According to informed sources, the projected pipeline, which may link up with the Saudi pipeline, will be 42 inches in diameter and will have daily capacity of 500,000 tons.

Kuwait and Saudi Arabia had earlier discussed special plans relative to the construction of a strategic pipeline at a meeting of the six member states of the Gulf Cooperation Council in Abu Dhabi in November 1986.

Should Kuwait decide to go ahead with the construction of the pipeline which is still under study, this would indicate that Kuwait has joined both Saudi Arabia and Iraq in their efforts to diversify available means of transporting crude oil away from the Gulf area. At any rate, the implementation of this project may be postponed temporarily due to the Iraqi pipeline which runs across Saudi Arabian territory.

13257/9190
CSO: 4404/211

BRIEFS

MILITARY OFFICIALS MEET--Shaykh Sabah al-Nasir, director of the Military Installations Department in the Kuwaiti Ministry of Defense, conferred yesterday morning with Major General Muhammad Salih al-Hammad, the Saudi Chief of General Staff. The Saudi news agency reported that several topics related to military issues had been discussed at the meeting which was attended by Col 'Abd-al-e Aziz Turki al-'Utayshan, director general of Military Affairs at the Saudi Ministry of Defense. The news agency report added that in the course of his visit to Saudi Arabia Shaykh Sabah al-Nasir al-Sabah will visit a number of military installations to familiarize himself with the progress made in the field of military planning, design and implementation. [Text] [Kuwait AL-SIYASAH in Arabic 11 Jan 87 p 1] 13257/9190

OIL TANKER ATTACKED BY IRANIANS--Kuwait AL-QABAS has learned from informed sources in the Gulf region that the Liberian oil tanker "Atlantic Dignity" which was attacked the night before last is leased to the Kuwait Oil Tanker Company. The sources added that the tanker which was carrying 43,430 tons of Kuwaiti crude oil on its way to Italy was hit by a boat on leaving Hormuz strait. The same sources described as "incorrect" Lloyd's report that the Liberian tanker had been hit by two explosives. What happened, said the sources, was that the tanker was hit by a missile launched by the attacking boat without warning. The sources added that the tanker's crew managed to put out the fire ignited by the missile and to plug a hole created by the incident above the submersion line. The sources said that the tanker will stop by the nearest port on its service line for a period not to exceed 3 days so the hole would be permanently repaired. The tanker will then resume its trip to Italy. Western news agencies reported that the attack on the tanker was made by an Iranian military boat. [Text] [Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 13 Jan 87 p 1] 13257/9190

CSO: 4404/211

QABALAN DISCUSSES HOSTAGES, SECURITY PLAN, OTHER ISSUES

Beirut MONDAY MORNING in English 9-15 Feb 87 pp 18-21

[Text] «Kidnapping is a cowardly act and we strongly condemn those who perpetrate it», said Jaafarite Mufti Sheikh Abdelamir Kabalan. «Our religion», he said, utterly prohibits attacks on individuals and attempts to deprive them of their liberty. He noted that kidnapping, terrorism and aggression are the product of a certain political mentality and have no religious or humanitarian justification.

Kabalan, a prominent cleric who is a member of the Higher Shiite Council, and who acts as the religious mentor of the Amal Movement, said that kidnapping and terrorism cannot be dealt with through violence and force. We should look for the causes which lie behind such practices, he said.

The Jaafarite mufti wondered why the United States and other countries whose citizens were kidnapped had not questioned themselves over their policies which made Lebanon a hostage-taking country. He stressed that unless Lebanon's stability security and sovereignty are restored, it will remain prey to disasters. He concluded that the sufferings we are facing are due to regional and international conflicts with Lebanon being the scene for those struggles. He felt it was impossible a military operation would be staged to rescue the hostages, because such an operation would complicate the situation and expose the lives of the hostages to danger.

Referring to the handing over of positions in Maghdousheh, Mufti Kabalan considered any failure in implementing the agreement reached, on the basis of the Iranian initiative, under Syria's sponsorship, as undermining this initiative and Syrian efforts as well.

He noted that whenever there were indications of a serious solution to the Lebanese crisis, new attempts were made to prevent any progress from being achieved. Kabalan said that the excuse given for opening Halat Airport, namely that travellers from the eastern region are facing difficulties, was not valid. «All Lebanese are facing difficulties», he asserted. He declared that the solution is not to open the Halat Airport, but to find a formula that will restore security, stability and dignity to the Lebanese.

Evaluating the security plan implemented on Tuesday, Kabalan said he would support any decision that would remove armed men from the city and lead to the closure of militia offices, in a bid to allow the legitimate forces to maintain law and order.

«Lebanon cannot be saved except through a Lebanese-Syrian understanding» Kabalan told *Monday Morning*, adding that this understanding should be the result of the two sides' agreement. The restoration of dialogue and the opening of contacts between Baabda and

Damascus are the shortest way to overcome the present ordeal. He did not think that current developments would annul the Lebanese-Syrian summit, but would rather confirm it.

Security is imposed, not begged, said Kabalan, but it must be based on a credible deterrent. Otherwise, the militias will again exploit the situation.

Following is the translation of the interview, which was conducted in Arabic:

The wave of kidnapping foreigners has increased. Do you think that their release will be obtained through dialogue, or through a military operation, concluded from statements of U.S. officials and their military presence in the Mediterranean waters?

Kidnapping is a cowardly act which we strongly condemn. We deplore all who practice kidnapping, whatever the incentives and causes. The human being is God's creature on earth, and our religion and the teachings of prophets utterly prevent us from undertaking such aggressions, and from depriving the people of their freedom. Whenever we give preeminence to political considerations, religious and moral values are stifled, and this is what is taking place now in Lebanon. Kidnapping attacks and terrorism are carried out by the various political groups, but they do not have any religious or sectarian or humanitarian justification. They are the product of political conflicts, and of contradicting regional and international interests, whose prices are being paid by the innocents. As such, dealing with such topics cannot take place through violence and force. They should be tackled with reasonably, through looking for the causes which lie behind such practices. In other words, we should look for the incentives which lead one party or another to kidnap or deprive one's freedom. It is to be noted that the United States and other countries, whose citizens were kidnapped had not ever questioned

themselves, why did their policies towards Lebanon, made this country a hostage-taking one in view of the fact that all its security, social and economic factors have been kidnapped. If Lebanon does not restore its previous conditions of security, stability and sovereignty, this country will remain to be a prey to disasters. The present situation from which we are suffering, is the direct outcome of regional and international policies, which made Lebanon a scene of struggle for influence. This consequently caused an imbalanced state in the country and reduced the ability of the legal authorities to maintain law and order. In order to confront the kidnapping, these countries should reconsider their policies towards Lebanon, and should work seriously to restore the state authority and to support the legitimate forces. On this basis, I rule out any military operation to release the hostages, because if a military operation takes place, the issue will become more complicated, and the lives of the hostages will be endangered.

Has agreement been reached on handing over the positions previously occupied by the Amal Movement in Maghdousheh or will they be handed over to the Popular Liberation Army, and parties, which is rejected by the Amal Movement. Do you expect military clashes to erupt between those parties and the Movement?

The agreement recently reached, on the basis of the Iranian initiative and under Syria's sponsorship, to solve the

al-Ladhiqiyah	200430	50
Jablah	50658	20
al-Hafah	7121	20
al-Qardahah	10696	20
Tartus Province		
Tartus	54866	20
Baniyas	23010	20
Safita	20257	20
Duraykish	13716	20
Shaykh Badr	5619	20
Dayr al-Zawr Province		
Dayr al-Zawr	138513	35
al-Bukamal	28824	20
al-Mayadin	27371	20
al-Raqqah Province		
al-Raqqah	97200	24
Tall al- Abyad	5042	20
al-Thawrah	49000	20
al-Tabaqah	69112	20
al-Hasakah Province		
al-Hasakah	59105	20
Ra's al-'Ayn	12751	20
al-Qamishli	59042	20
al-Malkiyah	18100	20
'Amuda	24402	20
Dar'a Province		

Dar'a	51910	20
Azra'	10829	20
al-Sanamayn	13828	20
Nawa	29087	20
al-Suwayda' Province		
al-Suwayda'	40000	20
Shahba'	9226	20
Salkhad	9698	20

Article 2

This decree is to be published and carried out.

Damascus, 20/5/1407 AH (20/10/1987 AD)

President of the Republic

Hafiz al-Asad

Decree No 9

The President of the Republic

According to the provisions of the local administration law issued by legislative decree No 15 of 11/5/1971 as amended, does hereby decree the following:

Article 1

The administrative units which are considered cities as stipulated in the 1st and 5th articles of the local administration law and so named in accordance with the following, within their current administrative limits:

- A. Province of Rural Damascus - city of Jayrud**
- B. Province of Hims - city of Tilbisah**
- C. Province of Halab - City of Tadif**
- D. Province of Idlib - City of Salqin**

Article 2

This decree is to be published and carried out as required.

Damascus

20/5/1405 AH (20/1/1987 AD)

President of the Republic

Hafiz al-Asad

12502

CSO: 4400/235

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

TRADE WITH USSR TO INCREASE

Dubayy KHALEEJ TIMES in English 20 Feb 87 p 11

[Article by Raman Kapoor]

[Text]

THE USSR intends to attach far greater importance than hitherto to trade and financial links with the UAE.

This is the view of Vladimir A. Drovossekov, deputy chairman of the Bank for Foreign Trade of the USSR, who incidentally is the top-most financial expert to visit the UAE so far since the two countries established diplomatic relations over a year ago.

Mr Drovossekov, accompanied by Dr Sergei Devgachev, the bank's expert on Eurofinancing and economic research, were in the UAE for three days and left yesterday evening for Moscow.

In an interview in Dubai, the Soviet banker stated he discovered "tremendous potential" for strengthening trade links with the UAE during his brief stay in Abu Dhabi and Dubai. On his return to Moscow, he said, he would recommend to the ministry of foreign trade that much more attention should be paid to this area, though "we had missed the opportunity for trade for such a long time."

Mr Drovossekov said trade prospects are good not only on country to country basis, but through Dubai for transhipment to other areas in the region. "We can be competitive pricewise."

There are opportunities for project financing in this area, he stated. Asked what areas could be tapped, Mr Drovossekov said USSR is well-known for undertaking projects in Asia, Africa, Middle East and Latin America, and financing could cover not only the industrial projects, but also social amenities such as schools, colleges, hospitals and the like.

While in Abu Dhabi, Mr Drovossekov met Shaikh Nahyan bin Mubarak Al Nahyan, chairman of the BCCE, who are the correspondent bankers for the Soviet bank. In Dubai, he met leading bankers of the Commercial Bank of Dubai, BCCI (International), and others.

Dubai's free zone (Jebel Ali) facilities could be a great attraction for Soviet companies, and Mr Drovossekov said he would apprise the authorities to explore further details.

When asked whether his bank was considering establishing a branch in the UAE, he said "it's necessary to put the horse before the cart. If trade develops between the two countries, banking will follow." The present level of trade between the UAE and the Soviet Union is negligible.

The UAE has a very extensive banking system, and has very good bankers. "In Dubai there are good opportunities for us, in spite of its being over-banked," he added.

The Soviet team's visit to the UAE came after signing a \$150 million Eurocurrency loan for eight years by a group of Kuwait banks and financial institutions to the USSR. The Soviet Union has a long-standing relationship with Kuwaiti banks.

Asked on the extent of commercial loans raised by the USSR in this financial year, Mr Drovossekov said the Soviet Union does not take commercial loans but goes for consortium loans. "We don't publish our foreign debt figures but these are very moderate. We're very cautious about external debts," he added.

/9317
CSO: 4400/156

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

BRIEFS

ESL DEVELOPMENT PLANS--Ways of developing English as the second language of the country with British help were discussed by Salem Al Ghamai, Assistant Under-Secretary, Ministry of Education, with the deputy director-general of the British Council, now visiting the UAE, in Dubai on Wednesday. The possibility of getting British teachers and language inspectors, training facilities in Britain and assistance in developing proper English syllabuses was examined at the meeting. The general performance of weaker students in the special coaching classes of Al Ain schools was discussed on Wednesday at a meeting presided over by Ahmed Hamza, technical assistant to the director of Al Ain educational zone. The meeting decided that only outstanding teachers should be allowed to take these classes.--Wam [Text] [Dubayy KHALEJ TIMES in English 13 Feb 87 p 3] /9317

COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH IRAQ--The UAE and Iraq have signed an agreement for economic, cultural and technical cooperation. The agreement was signed in Baghdad yesterday by UAE Minister of Economy and Commerce Saif Al Jarwan and Iraqi Finance Minister Hisham Hassan Towfig. It covers the areas for enhancing economic cooperation, trade exchange and developing agricultural links, as well as the exchange of expertise in these fields. The agreement was signed at the conclusion of the fourth meeting of the Joint UAE-Iraqi Commission. Mr Jarwan yesterday met Iraqi Revolutionary Command Council Member and First Deputy Premier Taha Yassin Ramadan. [Text] [Dubayy KHALEJ TIMES in English 16 Feb 87 p 2] /9317

ECONOMIC ACCORD WITH TURKEY--Ankara--Turkey and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) signed an economic protocol yesterday calling for increased cooperation and financial assistance for existing joint projects, Anatolian agency said. The protocol of the third joint economic committee meeting was signed by visiting UAE Economy and Commerce Minister Saif Al Jarwan and Turkish Industry Minister Cahit Aral after three days of talks. It foresaw agreements in the near future on communications and tourism. The two sides also decided on cooperation between their firms in oil and petrochemicals, the protocol said. Projects undertaken by the joint investment company Emirlikler-Anadolu Yatirim Sirketi as well as other projects would be financially supported, it said. The investment company was set up last year with the Abu Dhabi Fund for Arab Economic Development taking 80 percent of the \$4 million capital, Turkey's state industrial and workers' investment

bank (Desiyab) 10 percent and private interests 10 percent. Under the protocol, Turkey will open a trade centre in the UAE and train UAE experts in agriculture and animal husbandry, the agency said. Turkish exports to the UAE in the first 11 months of last year were worth \$35 million while its imports in the same period totalled \$156 million.--Reuter [Text] [Dubayy KHALEEJ TIMES in English 20 Feb 87 p 11] /9317

CSO: 4400/156

AFGHANISTAN

BRIEFS

MUJAHIDIN LEADER'S HEALTH--AL-MUJTAMA' has learned that Professor 'Abdrabb al-Rasul Sayyaf, a leader of the Afghan mujahidin, is being treated for an ailment he has developed. We wish him a speedy recovery and hope that he will represent the Afghan mujahidin in the Islamic conference, which will be held in Kuwait at the end of next month, as he represented them in the Islamic conference which was held in al-Ta'if, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. [Text] [Kuwait AL-MUJTAMA' in Arabic 23 Dec 86 p 14] 8494/9190

CSO: 4604/11

POLITICAL PROCESS SAID IN STALEMATE

Colombo THE ISLAND in English 4 Feb 87 p 7

[Article by Pran Chopra]

[Text]

Within a matter of some months politics in Bangladesh has transited from a state of confusion which had creative possibilities to a calm and placidity which can be quite deadly. The appearance of this change must be very pleasing to President Ershad; with his army background and material law experience, he would find reason to congratulate himself over the change he has wrought. But very disturbed are the thoughts of people closer to politics, whether as practitioners or as students of the art of politics.

During my earlier visits to Bangladesh, including one almost exactly a year ago, I found the scene to be intensely alive with open debate and behind the scenes activity aimed at ending the martial law and taking the country back to a reasonably credible democratic process. No one appeared to quite know how this was to be done, but the desire appeared to be strong and genuine among all the people I met, in-

cluding General Ershad, as the President then was, and several different ways were being explored simultaneously.

Exploration

But early in January this year I found the exploration at a dead end and the spirit deflated. This comment might seem unfair to President Ershad,

who in the course of 1986 left the army, lifted the martial law, got a Parliament elected and himself became an elected civilian President. But I fear the net effect has been that the installation of something much less than genuine has checkmated the attempt to instal the real thing.

All independent observers of the scene admit that both the elections held last summer were more or less spurious, first the parliamentary and then the presidential. But no one knows how the damage is to be undone, or whether it can be.

Old actors

All the old actors are still there. The President for example, now

all the more self-confident because he has discovered that the terrors of the ballot box can be tamed quite well.

There is the Awami League, stronger for the evidence which tampered ballot boxes have not been able to destroy, that the League remains the country's political mainstream.

Its leader and now convincingly elected president, Sheikh Hasina, is now clearly more confident and articulate. There is the other main opposition party, the

Bangladesh National Party of Khaleda Zia, which has also grown in stature because, unlike the League it did not allow itself to be either tricked or stampeded into taking part in an election which turned out to be so spurious. But each corner of this triangle has been checkmated by the other two, and the result is a very debilitating stalemate.

Restoration

Until a year ago, several different possibilities were in the air, of which some directly and others indirectly, that is by a longer but perhaps a surer route,

would have taken the country to a genuinely democratic system. The first of these was that the Awami League and BNP would join forces to campaign together for the restoration of democracy. This would have been a formidable combination which the army would not have been able to resist for long, because unlike Pakistan Bangladesh is demographically and politically so made that the power equation in it between the military and popular political forces is much more tilted in favour of the latter.

The second possibility being actively explored was that a tacit arrangement would be arrived at between President Ershad and the Awami League under which the army would agree to more or less fair elections to parliament and Ershad would be accepted by the League as a constitutional head of state.

On the face of it this was unacceptable to the army, but the hope was propped up by two expectations. First, American influence, at least as strong in Bangladesh as in Pakistan, would favour this way out of the embarrassment of being seen to be supporting yet another dictatorship, though the real American preference was expected to be for a third choice.

Second, the army itself would find this to be a softer option than holding on to power in an atmosphere becoming increasingly hostile, politically, especially if the Awami League could be persuaded (which might not have been difficult) not to demand too abrupt a transition to a constitutional presidency.

Advantageous deal

The third possibility was a very different one, that the army would make a more advantageous deal with Begum Zia. In the two years of political agitations in Bangladesh from mid-84, it was the general belief everywhere that Begum Zia was not opposed to army rule so much as to the presidency of General Ershad. After all her own husband was a general when he seized power and he too had imposed the martial law. But she was

opposed to General Ershad because she believed him to be responsible for the assassination of President Zia. Many people had thought it to be possible a year ago that to avert both the first and the second possibilities, elements in the army would dump President Ershad and make a deal with Begum Zia because then the army would remain in power with some other general in the chair and with some fruits of power given also to the Begum to keep her quiet.

Inherent

Such a possibility might at first sight have appeared to mean only the perpetuation of military or semi-military rule for a number of years more. But there was inherent in it the probability that a deal between the army and elements of BNP led by Begum Zia would bring the democratic elements in BNP, which were also substantial, into an allparties democratic coalition led by the Awami League and the first possibility would re-emerge. The struggle would be a longer one because army rule would be reinforced with the prestige and political cushion of Begum Zia, but it would be an uncluttered and therefore in the long run a more meaningful and constructive fight

between democratic and authoritarian forces, in which the former would win a clearer even if delayed victory.

But what has found fulfilment instead is the a fourth possibility, which was talked about earlier too and is the worst of the lot. The first possibility failed because the League and BNP, although they unitedly won many a bat-

tle, could not unitedly fight the war for democracy. Partly they were divided by the clash of personal ambitious between Sheikh Hassina and Begum Zia. But they were divided more because the Begum suspected Hassina was really plotting for the second possibility and Hassina suspected that the Begum was plotting for the third. Strengthened by the division between the League and BNP and playing the two parties against each other as long as they considered it necessary, feeding each party's suspicions about the other, the army frustrated all the three possibilities.

Floated

General Ershad in the meantime worked upon the fourth. Following in the footsteps of General Zia and learning a trick or two from the Zia of Pakistan fame, Ershad floated BNP. Using every weapon in the armoury of a military ruler in a society in which prizes are easy to offer and are readily accepted, and using ground level muscle power which is also a common currency of politics in such societies, President Ershad, while still the

army chief and martial law administrator, built up his party by inducting into its fold some prominent leaders from other parties, including the League and BNP, while his lower level cadres used strong arm methods on their opposite numbers in other parties.

By the beginning of last year, JP had become a fit enough horse to run in a race controlled by the sole bookie, and thus the stage was set for the parliamentary election at the beginning of last summer, in which JP won a big majority in the only kind of election in which it could have done so. A curious thing happened in the declaration of the results. For some time they were declared in a steady stream, upto almost half, and in these the League was running neck and neck with JP. Then the declaration of results was suspended for a long time, and when resumed they showed JP running way ahead of the League!

The result is the present situation. There is an apparently elected parliament and president, but neither has much credibility. There is a defeated opposition which people credit with being a cheated winner. The wider opposition outside parliament remains divided. One part of that, BNP, sneers at the other part, the League, as a party which

allowed itself to be browbeaten and tricked into contesting a dishonest election in which it was deservedly cheated.

Confident

The government is confident of its durability because it believes it can coopt any opposition leader whenever it wants (the Deputy Prime Minister is a man who, though able and articulate, is politically most mobile, having travelled in quick time from the Awami League to BNP and then JP). On the surface there is complete calm and admirable looking order. Beneath the surface there is widespread cynicism about political processes and institutions. In the wings there are various forces which can erupt without notice with consequences which no one can predict.

The best among them and historically the

most constructive are the students. They have intervened more than once in the past either to overthrow unpopular regimes or to compel the forces of legitimate politics, that is the traditional political parties, to behave better.

Youth power

The government also appears to be more worried about them: President Ershad has indicated he plans to ban politics on the campus by law. But as of now there is neither a clearly visible force of change nor a governing factor seen by the people to be both effective and creditable. The vacuum is being filled only by two things: despondency in the general public about the viability of legitimate politics in the conditions now created in the country, and growing use of muscle power, in the guise of youth power, by all political parties, including the Awami League.

/12828
CSO: 4600/157

INDIA, CANADA SIGN EXTRADITION TREATY

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 7 Feb 87 p 1

[Text]

NEW DELHI, February 6.

INDIA and Canada today signed an extradition treaty which, considering the outstanding requests for extradition, will have an impact in the context of activities of Sikh extremists in that country.

The treaty was described officially as path-breaking and a document that could serve as a model for future bilateral agreements. It reflected the common concern about terrorist activities.

The treaty was signed by the Canadian secretary of state for external affairs, Mr. Joe Clark and Mr. N. D. Tiwari, external affairs.

In recent years, both India and Canada have sought to extradite persons from each country but were unable to do so because of the lack of a legal basis.

The treaty provides for extradition for offences whether committed before or after the treaty comes into force.

To be eligible for extradition, a conduct should be an offence not only under the laws of India but also that of Canada. Even offences relating to taxation or revenue or other of purely fiscal character would be eligible for extradition.

Under the treaty, each country will have the jurisdiction to try and punish offenders committing crimes within its own territory, when the offender is found in that territory.

However, it has an innovative provision that in determining the

jurisdiction of one's own courts, the two countries will consider "grave or immediate" consequences of the offence in other's territory to see if extradition could be provided.

India and Canada have accepted this provision in recognition of the trans-national connections and impact of terrorist activities.

The treaty does not contain a list of extraditable offences; rather, extradition may be granted for any act which constitutes a crime under the laws of both countries and for which the minimum sentence of one year or more is prescribed. This eliminates the necessity of amending the treaty as new acts are made crimes in Canada and India.

However, the treaty has specified a list of more serious offences: offences against safety of civil aviation, unlawful seizure of aircraft, crimes against diplomats, offences related to terrorism, murder, manslaughter, assault causing bodily harm, kidnapping, hostage-taking, damage to property, disruption of public properties, offences related to firearms, weapons and explosives or dangerous substances.

An attempt, or conspiracy to com-

mit any of these offences would not be regarded as those of a political character for purposes of extradition.

The treaty provides for proper legal safeguards for all the accused and due process of law without discrimination based on race, religion, colour or ethnic origin.

In case of urgency, a person can be arrested provisionally under the treaty.

As Canada and India have similar constitutions which ensure a fair and impartial trial, the treaty contains humanitarian safeguards in language consistent with Canada's charter of rights and freedoms and India's extradition act. Therefore, the rights of the person sought are fully protected.

The treaty does not preclude the extradition of Canadian or Indian citizens. It does not consider as defence that a serious crime was committed for political considerations. For example, the claim that a murder or hijacking was committed for a political purpose would not be a bar to extradition for that offence.

The requesting state is required under the terms of the treaty to initiate prosecution of the offender within six months of the extradition.

/9274
CSO, 4600/1448

REPORTAGE ON TALKS TO DEFUSE PAKISTAN BORDER TENSION

Analyst Gives Background

Madras THE HINDU in English 28 Jan 87 p 1

[Article by G. K. Reddy]

[Text]

NEW DELHI, Jan. 27.

The Pakistan Foreign Secretary, Mr. Abril Sattar, will be arriving in Delhi probably on Friday, a day after Gen. Zia-ul-Haq returns from the Islamic summit in Kuwait, to begin the talks on de-escalation in all sectors of the Indo-Pakistani border, where the two armies are now deployed at forward positions.

The Government of India has been told that Pakistan would like to send one or two senior military officers along with Mr. Sattar to assist him during the discussions on the modalities for withdrawals, the relocation of troops at their normal stations and procedures for intimation of army movements for exercises in future.

As a happy prelude to these talks, an invitation has been extended to Gen. Zia to visit India to witness a one-day international cricket match in the current series between the Indian and Pakistani teams. The expectation is that the border situation would return to normal by the end of March, when he is due to arrive to watch one of these matches either at Nagpur or Pune depending on his convenience.

The Prime Minister, Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, will have to extend the courtesy of being present at this match whether it is in Nagpur or Pune, thereby offering an opportunity for private talks to ensure that the two countries do not get caught up in a grave border crisis again. From Gen. Zia's point of view, it would be a political gain for him, if he can use this cricket diplomacy for projecting himself as a man of peace.

Meanwhile, the troop movements are still taking place on both sides of the border, more visibly on the Indian side since it had to restore the strategic balance that had been suddenly upset by Pakistan's provocative action in moving its main strike forces into the Shakargarh bulge and the Muzinebad Salient. The train services in many parts of the country will remain cancelled or curtailed till the end of this month to enable the movement of both troops and equipment to the border in Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab and Rajasthan.

The secretary-level talks cannot get into full stride until the end of this week, since the chief Indian negotiator, the officiating Foreign Secretary, Mr. Alfred Gonsalves, is going to be busy

with the Malaysian Prime Minister's visit. As the new Foreign Secretary, Mr. K.P.S. Menon has not yet assumed charge and the Third Secretary, Mr. Ashok Gokhale, is going to take at least a month more to join, the main burden of running the External Affairs Ministry falls on Mr. Gonsalves, who has now been burdened with the additional responsibility of negotiating with his counterpart from Pakistan on this crucial issue of military disengagement.

Crisis cooling down

But now that the border crisis has started cooling down — and the threat of a war is no longer looming large on the horizon despite the continuing military movements — the defence experts in both India and Pakistan are looking back to see how the two countries have overplayed their hands or allowed themselves to be pushed into this needless confrontation of alarming proportions with nearly a million troops deployed on either side. A proper assessment of what really went wrong can be made only after all the relevant information is available after the disengagement of the two armies in due course, when what really prompted Pakistan to indulge in this brinkmanship become more apparent in a calmer atmosphere.

Whatever the Pakistani motivations, the Indian General Staff has not covered itself with glory in planning the triennial exercise and moving both the armoured divisions, a mechanised division, several Infantry divisions and other support formations into the desert area in southern Rajasthan, leaving the more sensitive sectors of the border without any strategic reserves or strike forces at a time of serious political and communal turmoils in Punjab which were being openly supported by Pakistan through trans-border subversion.

It took the Indian Army authorities nearly two months to assemble this vast force in depth in the Jaisalmer area and spread it over 1,000 square kilometres for carrying out divisional and corps level exercises first, before the final phase of these war games lasting two more months. The many divisions engaged in this biggest war exercise would take another two months to get back to their normal military stations.

The Indian Service Chiefs miscalculated

grossly in imagining that Pakistan would let the military imbalance that developed in other sectors, especially on the Punjab borders, to remain unchallenged to gain tactical advantage and even derive some political benefit from it. There was consternation in Delhi when the two Pakistani Armoured Divisions and other strike formation that moved closer to the border under the guise of annual exercises started taking up forward positions.

The Indian Army authorities kept a vigilant eye on what Pakistan was doing but made no counter-moves in any great strength until the Pakistan Army's southern reserve crossed the Sutlej and moved menacingly close to the border posing a threat to Abohar and Fazilka in Ferozepur district.

It was quite evident from the very beginning that there were some fanatical elements in the Pakistan Army which had been toying with the idea of taking India by surprise with some pincer moves from the Shakargarh and Musinabad sides to occupy a part of Punjab and give the Sikh extremists a chance to proclaim "Khalistan" with Pakistani support. What seemed no

more than a pipe dream on their part only a fortnight ago began assuming the ugly dimensions of a diabolical plan of action when the 1st Armoured Division and the 37th Infantry Division of the Pakistan Army crossed the Sutlej and started taking up offensive positions.

The Pakistani threat was no doubt met by heavy military movements on the Indian side, but it could not have been contained so easily if the Zia regime was not plagued by deep unrest within Pakistan. The fact that India did not suddenly disperse the vast force assembled in the Jaisalmer area also led to the sobering realisation that the Indian Army could cut off Sind completely in the event of a Pakistani attempt to make deep thrusts into Punjab to create political trouble.

The crisis has been managed by India and Pakistan has once again been made to realise the grave consequences of any military misadventure on its part. For the Indian Generals too this episode will remain a constant reminder that over-confidence does not pay in dealing with a wily neighbour motivated by political antipathy and religious fanaticism.

Differences Over Scope

Madras THE HINDU in English 1 Feb 87 p 1

[Article by G. K. Reddy]

[Text]

NEW DELHI, Jan. 31.

At the opening round of the Indo-Pakistan Secretary-level talks today on military withdrawals, there were substantive differences over the purpose and scope of these discussions, especially the definition of disengagement and de-escalation in so far as these two concepts applied to the present border situation.

There was considerable divergence of opinion whether the mere pull back of troops from forward positions and their return to earlier locations would lead to a removal of the present tensions, or some other follow-up steps were needed to be taken simultaneously to create the right climate for restoring the missing element of mutual confidence.

But as the two delegations settled down to detailed exchanges on how they should proceed to work out an agreed schedule of withdrawals within a time-frame, they were reported to be in a more accommodating mood realising the binding compulsions on both sides to avoid a military confrontation. Though the details of what exactly transpired during the two sessions today lasting four and a half hours were being kept secret, it became known that neither India nor Pakistan was adopting a rigid posture to the point of risking a break of these negotiations.

The Foreign Secretary of Pakistan, Mr. Abdul Sat-

tar, called on the Minister of State for External Affairs, Mr. K. Natwar Singh, for a preliminary exchange of views on the scope of these discussions, before the two delegations met this morning to commence these complex negotiations. He said that he came with a personal assurance to India from Gen. Zia-ul-Haq of Pakistan's earnest desire for an early de-escalation of the border tensions and creation of good neighbourly atmosphere.

An Indian spokesman, adhering to what is called zero information policy agreed upon by the two sides, said that they discussed "measures to prevent further escalation of tensions along the border and also to de-escalate the situation." He added that the talks were held in a "frank, business-like and cordial atmosphere and promoted a better mutual understanding" without disclosing on what aspect of de-escalation the talks focussed on.

The Defence component of the Indian delegation, led by the officiating Foreign Secretary, Mr. Alfred Gonsalves, included Mr. N. N. Vohra, Additional Secretary, Lt.-General K. S. Gill, Director-General, Military Training, Major General F. T. Dias, Additional Director-General of Military operations and Group Captain N. Menon, Director of Air Force, besides Brigadier K. K. Khanna, Military Adviser of the Indian High Commission in Pakistan.

1 February Secret Proceedings

Madras THE HINDU in English 2 Feb 87 p 1

[Article by G. K. Reddy]

[Text]

NEW DELHI, Feb. 1.

The Indo-Pakistan talks on de-escalation have been extended by a day till Tuesday to enable the two delegations to agree on a mutually acceptable basis for troop withdrawals within a specified time-frame on the basis of some concrete proposals presented by both sides.

Consequently, the Pakistan delegation which was due to leave for Lahore tomorrow afternoon has delayed its departure by a day to complete these crucial discussions.

The whole of the morning today was spent in internal consultations by the two delegations—with Indian officials from the Ministries of External Affairs and Defence reviewing the outcome of the two rounds of talks yesterday, and the Pakistani officials holding parallel discussions at their embassy to report and receive necessary instructions from their Government.

At the informal exchanges that took place at a working dinner last night after the two rounds of formal talks yesterday, some proposals emerged for first preventing further escalation before coming to grips with the proposed withdrawals for de-escalating the border tensions. The two sides presented some more proposals for synthesising this two stage operation into an agreed plan of action, when they met this afternoon to resume these discussions.

Close secret

What exactly emerged from these talks today is being kept a close secret by both sides, with the official spokesman refusing to divulge anything more than the bare fact that the two sides had put forward some more proposals this afternoon.

But there were indications that India was insisting on confining these talks to the mandated issue of bringing about a de-escalation of tensions through mutual withdrawal of forces that had been moved to forward positions, while Pakistan was still manoeuvring to widen the scope to bring in indirectly the question of the Indian exercises in Rajasthan within the purview of this disengagement, presumably to delay the pull out of its two armoured strike formations.

The Indian negotiators tried to probe the Pakistan delegation a little deeper to assess its fall-back position, so that they could come forward with some more concrete suggestions on how the two sides should proceed to first prevent further escalation by taking steps to de-escalate the border tensions. The two sides would probably reveal their final approaches only tomorrow after the sparring is over and they get down to the real business of working out an agreed schedule of withdrawals by both the armies and air forces from their forward positions.

Convivial atmosphere

But what is interesting is that these talks are being conducted in a convivial atmosphere with a lot of bonhomie as though they were dealing with the current Indo-Pakistan cricket series rather than a warlike situation with a million troops massed along the borders by both sides. The Indian hosts arranged for some members of the Pakistan delegation to make a quick sight-seeing trip to Agra, while its leader, the Foreign Secretary, Mr. Abdul Sattar, went to the Gymkhana Club this morning for a game of tennis to refresh himself before getting down to serious discussions.

The crisis that erupted suddenly 10 days ago seems to have vanished equally abruptly into thin air; although the troops are still at their forward positions. The general public has lost interest in these politico-military gyrations, since nobody expects the two countries to go to war on this occasion.

Central question

But those in positions of power in Delhi who have been dealing with this crisis have no rational explanation to offer as to why Pakistan acted in such a provocative manner by moving its two main attack formations within easy striking distance of the Punjab border and what it hoped to gain from it. The current talks in Delhi have provided no clue at all to this central question, since the leader of the Pakistan delegation has said nothing more than harping on his Government's apologia that it had to take some basic military precautions in the face of the biggest ever Indian exercises in Rajasthan, without admitting that Pakistan had moved both of its strike formations close to the Punjab borders, compelling India to take some countervailing measures.

The informal contacts will continue tonight before the two sides start firming up their approaches in the light of the proposals put forward by both teams. And a final picture of what is agreed upon is not likely to emerge until Tuesday when the Pakistan delegation is due to return home, since some hard bargaining will go on until the last moment.

PAC examines proposals

The Political Affairs Committee of the Cabinet met today to examine the Pakistani proposals and authorise the Indian responses to them after considering their implications. The primary emphasis the two sides are now placing is on preventing further escalation by taking steps to prevent the kind of situation that arose in the Abohar-Fazilka sector by agreeing on specific steps to desist from such action.

The process of de-escalation can follow only after the existing situation in all sectors has

been stabilised with an understanding that neither side would take any precipitate action to intensify the tensions. In other words, until the Indian exercises in Rajasthan conclude in a month's time, it is highly unlikely that Pakistan would agree to withdraw the strike force it has moved across the Sutlej in the Abohar-Fazilka sector in Ferozepore district, while the other that is now deployed in the Shakargarh bulge might also stay on there for the present.

2 February Proceedings, Talks Extended

Madras THE HINDU in English 3 Feb 87 p 1

[Article by G. K. Reddy]

[Text]

NEW DELHI, Feb. 2.

The Prime Minister, Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, went to the top secret operations room in the Ministry of Defence today to receive a detailed briefing from the service chiefs on the latest border situation — and get a clear idea of the strategic significance of the Indian and Pakistani military deployments — before he conferred with senior Ministers and officials on how far the Indian negotiators should go in arriving at an understanding with the Pakistan delegation on the nature, extent and timing of the proposed de-escalation.

There was intense activity in both Indian and Pakistan circles on what was intended to be the penultimate day of the secretary-level talks as the two Governments conducted a long distance dialogue through their proxies, with some tough bargaining behind the scenes on how to proceed with this multi-stage operation, starting off with some mutually binding restraints to avoid a further intensification of the military confrontation, followed by a time-bound schedule of withdrawals and finally the formulation of a new set of ground rules to prevent the kind of crisis that has arisen by misjudging each other's intentions.

Principle of reciprocity

When the two delegations met this morning to resume the talks after further consultations with their respective Governments, it became quite evident that Pakistan was pressing hard for at least some change in the size and pattern of the exercises in Rajasthan, even if India was not prepared to curtail or cancel them. It was insisting on applying the principle of reciprocity in one form or the other in the name of parallel action for disengagement by both sides, without placing each other in tactically disadvantageous positions.

The big question that faced the Prime Minister and his advisers today was how far should

India go in meeting this Pakistani demand even in a symbolic sense to enable it to withdraw the two armoured strike formations that had taken up forward positions opposite the Abohar-Fazilka sector in the south and the Shakargarh bulge in the north posing a serious threat to Punjab, while the main Indian reserve divisions remain in southern Rajasthan. An effort was, therefore, made to mesh the Indian and Pakistani proposals into a mutually acceptable formula to the extent possible in the present circumstances consistent with the stand taken by the two Governments.

The leaders of the two delegations, Mr. Alfred Gonsalves and Mr. Abdul Sattar, met this afternoon in an effort to resolve these differences and conclude the talks tomorrow, if possible, with some broad agreement to avoid further escalation followed by steps to de-escalate the border tensions. But as there was little hope on accord being reached at the concluding session tomorrow, the Pakistan delegation agreed to extend its stay in Delhi by one more day to enable the two sides to continue their discussions without tying themselves down to a deadline.

The Indian delegation took the stand at the very start of these talks that the discussions should be confined to the mandated issue of preventing further escalation followed by steps to de-escalate the tensions without going into the details of how this could be done. But the Pakistani delegation agreed to engage in these limited discussions but made it quite clear that it would press for a political-level follow-up dialogue at a later stage after the de-escalation to ensure that a similar crisis would not arise again.

'Minimal' precautions

The Pakistani delegation continued to maintain that the present "popular" Government in Islamabad was compelled to take some "minimal" military precautions along the borders in the face of the biggest ever "multi-corps" Ind-

ian exercise involving over 200,000 troops in southern Rajasthan. In other words, it implied that so long as this exercise was going on close to the Sind, there was no question of Pakistan unilaterally withdrawing its two strike formations from the Abohar-Fazlka area and the Shakargarh bulge without reciprocal Indian action.

This is how the position stood tonight as a last minute effort was being made to evolve a mutually acceptable basis for a limited accord on avoidance of further escalation as a prelude to fuller disengagement. The final outcome of these talks would be known only after more discussions tomorrow, and if all goes well a joint statement is expected to be issued on Wednesday before the departure of the Pakistan delegation.

A redeeming feature of these protracted talks is that both sides want to prevent an intensification of these border tensions, although neither is prepared to make concessions be-

yond a point. It is not in the interests of either India or Pakistan to allow this tense situation to continue with all the attendant risks of an unintended conflict.

So the two countries want these talks to conclude on a hopeful note with some measure of understanding to keep the military situation within manageable limits, while they continue to strive for a wider accord perhaps in several stages. The leaders of the two delegations will meet tomorrow along with their military experts to examine how far they can go in working out the common denominators between the positions taken by the two sides.

It was quite apparent from Mr. Abdul Sattar's remark that he was prepared to stay on even beyond Wednesday to arrive at an understanding that he does not go back empty-handed to Islamabad. The same sort of compulsions that prevailed at the Simla talks in 1972 seem to be at work again since neither country wants to bear the blame for the failure of these negotiations.

3 February Activities

Madras THE HINDU in English 4 Feb 87 p 1

[Article by G. K. Reddy]

[Text]

NEW DELHI, Feb. 3.

The Indian and Pakistani negotiators today carried out a sector by sector study of the ground positions on either side of the border to identify the nature and extent of deployments in different areas by the two armies and air forces, before evolving a mutually acceptable package of procedures for withdrawals within the framework of a wider agreement on de-escalation.

At the end of these day-long discussions, an official spokesman announced that "progress has been made in working out measures to defuse tensions." But he declined to divulge the details of what had been agreed upon by the two sides, other than saying that the talks would conclude tomorrow before the Pakistani delegation leaves Delhi.

After the banquet at Rashtrapati Bhavan in honour of the visiting Finnish President, the Prime Minister, Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, called an urgent meeting of the Political Affairs Committee of the Cabinet to review the package that has emerged from today's discussions. He will be meeting the Indian delegation tomorrow morning to spell out the necessary guidelines for transforming this package into a proper agreement.

Limited understanding

Meanwhile, the leader of the Pakistan delegation, Mr. Abdul Sattar, called on the External Affairs Minister, Mr. N. D. Tiwari, along with his Indian counterpart, Mr. Alfred Gonsalves, and the two ambassadors, Mr. S. K. Singh and Mr. Humayun Khan, to discuss some key points that still remain to be thrashed out before the limited understanding reached today could be firmed up into formal agreement.

Earlier today, the Prime Minister conferred with the Defence and External Affairs Ministers, Mr. V. P. Singh and Mr. Tiwari, and the two Min-

isters of State, Mr. Arun Singh and Mr. K. Natwar Singh, besides senior civil and military members of the Indian delegation, to decide how they should clinch the key elements in the proposed accord. If satisfactory progress was made on other inter-related issues. At that stage there was no understanding even in principle on how the two sides should proceed with the two-track operation of first avoiding a further escalation through induction of more armour or troops at sensitive points and then proceeding in stages with the more important task of withdrawals for disengaging the two armies now poised in offensive-defensive positions.

Phased withdrawals

It would be known only tomorrow when the two delegations meet for the concluding session after receiving further instructions from their Governments whether they have succeeded in finding a fair and equitable basis for de-escalation of the prevailing tensions through phased withdrawals within an agreed time-frame. Much as they want to end these talks on a positive note, perhaps to be followed by another round in Islamabad, neither India nor Pakistan was prepared to make any major concessions without matching compensations that might create an impression of a climb down by one of them.

The military advisers of the two delegations met this morning in the presence of their leaders, Mr. Gonsalves and Mr. Sattar, to pin-point on sectoral maps the ground positions of the offensive and defensive formations on either side for establishing the factual situation, before coming to grips later in the day with the problem of phased withdrawals in agreed stages. The Pakistan delegation wanted these military officers to meet by themselves to deal with this issue at a professional level without bringing in political considerations, but the Indian officials felt that

in accordance with the country's constitutional system the civilian supremacy should be sustained with their symbolic presence during these discussions.

Key question

The key question that still remains to be thrashed out through some last-minute exchanges is whether Pakistan should be allowed to get away with its contention that, so long as the "biggest ever" Indian army concentration of over 200,000 men remains in southern Rajasthan, Pakistan cannot be expected to pull back its two strike formations now deployed opposite to Abohar-Fazilka sector in the south and the Shakargarh bulge in the north, posing a serious threat to the three border districts of Gurdaspur, Amritsar and Ferozepore in Punjab.

It is this aspect of the proposed withdrawals that has been standing in the way of settlement during these protracted and often exasperating

negotiations. The Government of India had to decide whether these talks should be concluded on a positive note with some sort of cosmetic agreement for starting the withdrawals at less sensitive points to create an illusion of de-escalation, or whether India should continue to press for a more substantive understanding to open the way for quicker disengagement.

Scope for concessions

The tentative package that has emerged from today's discussions seems to meet the Indian demand at least half-way, leaving enough scope for some last minute concessions by both sides to make it more acceptable to them. The no war, no peace situation now prevailing cannot be allowed to continue for long without running the risk of escalation with a million troops massed on both sides of the border from Jammu and Kashmir through Punjab to Rajasthan.

Limited Understanding Reached

Madras THE HINDU in English 5 Feb 87 p 1

[Article by G. K. Reddy]

[Text]

NEW DELHI, Feb. 4.

After day-long suspense, India and Pakistan tonight reached an understanding on de-escalation of tensions along the border through mutual withdrawals from forward positions in a phased manner, along with a binding commitment not to attack each other or engage themselves in any provocative actions, without giving the impression of a climbdown by either side or leaving one or the other in a tactically advantageous position.

A limited understanding was reached late last night on phased withdrawals on a sector by sector basis, starting off with the Shakargarh bulge, but the two delegations ran into rough weather today over the technicalities of inter-relating the pullout of matching military formations on either side to provide for a balanced reduction of forward deployments at strategic places.

The text of the agreed minutes of the understanding that was signed by the leaders of the two delegations, Mr. Alfred Goncalves and Mr. Abdul Sattar, provides for the withdrawal of all offensive and defensive forces by both sides to their peace time locations in the Ravi and Chenab corridor extending from the Shakargarh bulge to Akhnoor in the Jammu area within 15 days from today. It meant that the Pakistan army's northern reserve comprising the 6th Armoured Division and the 17th Infantry Division, and the 6th Mountain Division on the Indian side would withdraw from this area, while Pakistan would be permitted to retain an independent armoured brigade and an independent infantry brigade there.

The pullout of the troops would be carried out in a phased manner and monitored by the Directors-General of Military Operations on both sides. All mines already laid would be lifted, no new mines laid and the two air forces would be in contact to clear apprehensions about aircraft movements on either side.

Parallel action

These army withdrawals would be followed by parallel action by the two air forces which would deactivate all "satellite" airfields, meaning the forward bases. The navies of the two countries also would be brought to a lower state of operational readiness, implying that the present state of general alert on both sides would be ended soon.

The day-long suspense ended with the signing of the agreed minutes at 8 p.m. The leaders of the two delegations called on the Prime Minister, Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, before the Pakistan Foreign Secretary, Mr. Abdul Sattar, and his colleagues left for Islamabad by an Indian Air Force plane.

It was agreed that, on completion of the withdrawals in the Ravi-Chenab sector, the two countries would proceed with a similar pullout of troops from forward positions in other sectors in accordance with the schedules settled by them. An Indian delegation would be visiting Islamabad before the end of this month on mutually convenient dates to work out these withdrawals in a mutually acceptable manner to end the prevailing tensions.

Marathon meeting

What was intended to be a brief concluding session this morning for tying up loose ends and initialising the minutes turned out to be a marathon meeting spread over several hours, with both sides pressing hard for a more precise definition and binding application of the principle of reciprocity in carrying out these withdrawals on a sector by sector basis within a specified time-frame.

Consequently, the departure of the Pakistani delegation which was due to leave for Islamabad early this afternoon had to be put off in the wake of this near deadlock that had arisen, with both sides refusing to budge from their entrenched positions. But they continued to make a sustained attempt to overcome this hurdle, since neither country wanted these talks to fail although the two delegations were equally keen on avoiding the appearance of a last-minute climb down by either of them.

After consultations with their respective Governments, the two delegates agreed last night to proceed with the proposed withdrawals in a phased manner, starting off with the pullout of its northern strike force by Pakistan, opposite Gurdaspur district. There was to be a reciprocal withdrawal of the Indian formations that had been moved to the Jammu-Aknoor sector to contain the threat of a possible Pakistani onslaught.

But since India was not prepared to concede the Pakistani demand for curtailing or cancelling its exercise, the "Brass Tacks", in southern Rajasthan, it had to agree to let the southern strike force of Pakistan consisting of the 1st Armoured Division and 37th Infantry Division, which had moved across the Sutlej to take up offensive positions in the vicinity of Abohar-

Fazilka area, to remain there for the present until the completion of this exercise. As it would take India at least a month more to complete this exercise and start thinning out the vast force assembled in the Jaisalmer area, the question of the Pakistani withdrawal of its southern strike force could be discussed and settled only at the next round of talks in Islamabad.

Grave danger

The Indian General Staff felt that there was no harm in letting the southern reserve force of Pakistan stay on for the present in the vicinity of Ferozepore district, since the withdrawal of the northern reserve force from the Shakargarh bulge would deny Pakistan the tactical advantage of making a two-pronged pincer move into Punjab with these formidable armoured formations. So the Indian delegation did not insist on a parallel withdrawal of this force, since it would have meant modifying exercise "Brass Tacks" to provide matching concessions.

It was the combination of these two strike forces that constituted a grave threat, compelling India to move its troops and place the Air Force on full alert. The threat would lessen with the withdrawal of one of these two strike forces from offensive positions.

Firm commitment

So all that has been achieved at these five-day long talks is a limited withdrawal only in one sector, but along with a firm commitment not to attack each other or engage in any provocative actions. The modest move would certainly help in reducing tensions and dispelling the fears of a conflict, although the two countries have a long way to go in creating a real climate of peace for improving the Indo-Pakistan relations.

Text of Minutes

Madras THE HINDU in English 5 Feb 87 p 9

[Text]

NEW DELHI, Feb. 4.

Minutes of consultations between Mr. Abdul Sattar, Foreign Secretary of Pakistan and Mr. A. S. Gonsalves, Secretary in the Indian Ministry of External Affairs held from January 31 to February 4.

Immediate measures to defuse present tension, to prevent escalation and to de-escalate the situation along the India-Pakistan border.

(i) Both sides agree not to attack each other;
(ii) Both sides agree to exercise the maximum restraint and to avoid all provocative actions along the border;

(iii) In regard to concrete de-escalation measures both sides agreed to adopt a sector by sector approach for the pull out of troops deployed on the border by both sides.

In pursuance of these parameters both sides

agreed, as a first step, to the pull out of troops in the Ravi and Chenab corridor. In this corridor:-

(a) All offensive and defensive forces of both sides will pull out to peace time locations within 15 days of the date of initialising of these minutes. Additional formations inducted in the Ravi-Chenab corridor by both sides i.e. Army Reserve North comprising 6 Armoured Division and 17 Infantry Division on the Pakistan side, and 6 Mountain Division on the Indian side will also return to peace time locations within 15 days of the date of initialising of these minutes. Pakistan would retain one independent armoured brigade and an independent infantry brigade of the holding Corps reserve.

(b) The pull out of troops will be undertaken in a graduated manner and will be monitored through regular contact to be maintained by the DSGMO of both sides.

- (c) The modalities for the sector-wise pull out in other sectors would be discussed subsequently; in the intervening period both sides agree not to make any offensive movements to the international border in these sectors;
- (iv) All mines already laid will be lifted; no mines will be laid;
- (v) DsGMO of both countries shall maintain regular contact;
- (vi) The ACAS (Ops) of both countries shall maintain contact to clear apprehensions about aircraft movements;
- (vii) Regular contacts shall be maintained through diplomatic channels;
- (viii) All satellite airfields shall be deactivated immediately;
- (ix) Navies of both sides will be brought to a lower state of operational readiness;
- (x) For a discussion of further concrete measures for de-escalation along the border an Indian delegation has been invited to visit Islamabad during February 1987. Mutually convenient dates for the visit will be settled through diplomatic channels.

Talks Called Not Wholly Successful

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 6 Feb 87 p 8

[Editorial]

[Text]

The India-Pakistan negotiations on ending the military confrontation on the border have not been wholly successful. The two governments have agreed to withdraw their troops and armour only in the Northern sector. Hopefully, this should help ease tension all along the border. But the fact remains that the Indian and Pakistani armies will continue to face each other in Punjab and Rajasthan/Sind. This outcome is not particularly satisfactory from India's point of view. Since there was never any justification for Islamabad to keep its troops in their forward defensive positions in Punjab after their annual exercises were over in December, New Delhi would have been within its rights to insist on their return to their peacetime stations, especially in view of the mounting troubles in its Punjab. It cannot be a mere coincidence that the Pakistani deployment, especially the movement of the 6th Armoured Division and the 17th Infantry Division to positions from where they could threaten India's links with Jammu and Kashmir across Shakargarh and Sialkot, should have been followed by a series of moves such as the replacement of the five head priests by the Shiromani Gurdwara Prabandhak Committee and the call by the new appointees for the resignations of the presidents of all Akali factions. These developments have made the survival of the Barnala government problematic. In plain terms, if it was Islamabad's intention to encourage the extremists in the Indian Punjab, it has succeeded. Surely this is an intolerable situation for India.

Pakistan has also secured a significant propaganda advantage. Its case for keeping its troops on the border in Punjab and indeed for reinforcing them has been that it feels threatened by the triennial Indian exercises in Rajasthan. By agreeing to the continued presence of Pakistani forces in forward positions in Punjab, New Delhi has virtually acquiesced in this specious argument. But once it had accompanied its own forward troop movement with a call for talks, India was not left with much choice but to go along whatever Pakistan was prepared to concede. The withdrawal of Pakistan's 6th Armoured and 17th Infantry Divisions, is, of course, not an insignificant gain for India inasmuch as it reduces the danger to Jammu and Kashmir. But its importance should not be ignored. Islamabad could not have possessed whatever advantage it might have possessed in the Northern sector without exposing its defences all along the rest of the border, especially in the Southern sector. Thus in the entire episode, Islamabad has played its cards with considerable skill. But all that apart, the New Delhi talks have been an impressive exercise in crisis management. Never before, since 1951, have Indian and Pakistani armies confronted each other along the entire border and avoided going to war.

/9274
CSO: 4600/1445

ANALYST COMMENTS ON ZIA VISIT TO INDIA

Madras THE HINDU in English 6 Feb 87 p 1

[Article by G. K. Reddy]

[Text]

NEW DELHI, Feb. 5.

The Prime Minister, Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, will be meeting the President of Pakistan, Gen. Zia-ul-Haq, when he visits India shortly to witness one of the cricket matches in the current series between India and Pakistan.

Though the Indian invitation had suggested tentatively the one-day international match either in Pune on March 22 or Nagpur on March 24, Gen. Zia indicated that he would prefer to watch the play on the first day of the Test at Jaipur which starts on February 21, subject to the convenience of his Indian hosts.

As this one-day visit of Gen. Zia is going to be utilised by both India and Pakistan for renewing bilateral contacts at the highest level and engaging in a private exchange of views on many issues now standing in the way of better relations, the two sides are attaching a lot of importance to it, especially in the wake of the latest accord on military withdrawals to de-escalate the border tensions.

First phase of pull-out: The first phase of these withdrawals is due to be completed in the next 15 days in the Ravi-Chenab corridor, between Shakargarh and Akhnoor, before Gen. Zia's visit. The Pakistan army's northern reserve consisting of the 6th Armoured Division and the 17th Infantry Division, and the 6th Mountain Division on the Indian side would have pulled back by then to their peace time locations.

The Rajiv-Zia talks in Jaipur or elsewhere will help to set the right tone for the next round of Secretary-level talks, due to take place in Islamabad during the second half of this month, on withdrawals in other sectors particularly along with Punjab borders where at least six Indian divisions are facing more or less an equal number of Pakistan troops backed by its southern reserve consisting of the 1st Armoured Division and 37th Infantry Division opposite the Abohar-Fazilka salient in Ferozepur district. The withdrawals in the Shakargarh-Akhnoor sector along the Ravi-Chenab corridor would not by itself eliminate the tensions unless the necessary follow-up action is taken along the Punjab borders followed by the pull-out of the southern strike force of Pakistan.

As this southern reserve is not likely to be

withdrawn before the dispersal of the Indian forces now engaged in exercise 'Brass Tacks' in Rajasthan, the two Heads of Government can lay down the broad guidelines for completing these withdrawals along the Punjab borders soon without getting bogged down in procedural wrangles over the definition of offensive and defensive forces, as it happened yesterday before the agreed minutes were signed.

Political steps: In agreeing not to make any offensive movements during the intervening period before the next phase of sector by sector withdrawals, India and Pakistan have, no doubt, frozen the situation on the Punjab borders, but it will continue to remain tense as long as the two armies continue to confront each other at close range from their forward positions. It would, therefore, be desirable for Mr. Rajiv Gandhi and Gen. Zia to take some political steps to prevent a renewal of border tensions either through delayed withdrawals or other violations of the de-escalation agreement.

There is considerable satisfaction in high Government circles in Delhi that the first round of the Secretary-level talks have been handled by the officiating Foreign Secretary, Mr. Alfred Gonsalves, with considerable professional skill and deep understanding of the intricacies of this complex politico-military situation. The Indian Ambassador in Islamabad, Mr. S. K. Singh, made a valuable contribution to the success of these negotiations with his fuller knowledge of the proclivities of Pakistan. The two working in tandem, and ably assisted by a hand-picked team of civil and military officials, conducted these talks with a combination of firmness and flexibility without attempting to score small points during the protracted discussions.

The Foreign Secretary of Pakistan, Mr. Abdul Sattar, who is no stranger to India having spent several years in Delhi as Ambassador of his country, was no less consummate in putting across his point of view to defend the Pakistani troop movements. And during the detailed negotiations that followed he was ably assisted by the Pakistan Ambassador in Delhi, Mr. Humayun Khan, who has established good personal equation with many key figures in the Government of India despite strong political differences.

/9274

CSO: 4600/1447

PRESS REPORTS FURTHER ON INDO-PAKISTAN RELATIONS

Gandhi Remarks to Newsmen

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 6 Feb 87 p 1

[Text]

Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi said in New Delhi on Thursday that the Indo-Pakistan agreement to de-escalate the border situation "takes the normalisation process forward". However, he added, the Pakistan's strategic alliance with, the US posed problems for India. "The normalisation process is moving forward, inching forward. It is good that it is moving forward", Mr Gandhi said while answering questions from a group of Commonwealth journalists who met him at his residence.

Also, he said, the attitudes of the two countries to geopolitical problems were different. Pakistan did not have a working democracy and it was always much harder to deal with a military dictatorship especially when there had been tensions.

In reply to another question, the Prime Minister noted that Pakistan was a "strategic ally" of the United States, and that did pose problems. In this connection, he referred to Pakistan's unwillingness to accept to an Indian proposal to agree not to have foreign bases in either country. That was the real difference between India's offer of a treaty of friendship and that of Pakistan for a no war pact.

"We feel any foreign bases on the subcontinent will destabilise the whole subcontinent", he said.

Mr Gandhi said he would "of course" meet President Zia-ul-Haq, when the Pakistan President visits India to witness a cricket match (in Jaipur) later this month.

The question-answer session, from

journalists gathered in New Delhi for a Commonwealth press meet, started with a British journalist asking if the cricket test series were a good sign.

Mr Gandhi quipped: "We have managed to clear the other pitch last night" (a reference to the Indo-Pakistan agreement at the secretaries level).

Mr Gandhi spoke frankly about difficulties standing in the way of normalisation of Indo-Pakistan relations.

Mr Gandhi further said that occasional tension between India and Pakistan was due to a history of wars between the two countries. He said at least on three occasions Pakistan had attacked India. Besides this, the "hatred" created due to the partition of the country was still persisting. The generations which went through the partition were living in both the countries and were today in senior positions. That feeling of hurt was still there.

For nearly 30 minutes, Mr Gandhi handled questions on national and international issues in a cool and relaxed manner. Prime Minister expressed satisfaction at the outcome of secretary-level talks between India and Pakistan, on de-escalation of tension on the border.

Mr Gandhi said the Africa Fund summit had identified a number of projects which totalled 600 million dollars. "We have collected 70 million dollars. We feel that we will quite quickly collect a good amount. We would also like to lay down a list of properties".

The Prime Minister said that even the countries which were giving bilateral aid, "we will try to influence them and bring their aid to those areas that can give maximum support to the economies of the Frontline States".

He said that the purpose of the fund was very clear. It was to strengthen the economy of the Frontline States. The fund did not want to get involved in the security aspect. "We would like Frontline States to organise security. Any countries that want to help them bilaterally are most welcome to do that".

In reply to another question, Mr Gandhi said India was trying to bring aligned blocs to non-aligned ones. In this context, he referred to the recent declaration signed by him and the Soviet leader Gorbachev in New Delhi and said "it is a very non-aligned, non-violent declaration. We are very glad that a super power was able to shift its position -- from a position of blocs and areas of influence and spheres of operation to a more positive non-aligned democratic position. We hope others will too".

Mr Gandhi accused the Punjab Government of not agreeing to transfer the requisite chunk of land to Haryana in lieu of Chandigarh.

He said there was absolutely no hitch in transferring Chandigarh to Punjab. The accord, however, specifically provided for simultaneous transfer of land to Haryana. There was, therefore, a certain element of *Tuud pro quo* involved in the matter.

He described the Nassau commonwealth heads of government meeting

(CHOGM) as a turning point in the battle against apartheid.

Mr Gandhi felt that the eminent persons group constituted at CHOGM had contributed immeasurably to mould public opinion against apartheid.

Gandhi Remarks Indian, Pakistani Forces Compared

Madras THE HINDU in English 31 Jan 87 p 8

[Manoj Joshi]

[Text]

THE events of the past two weeks have been baffling. A sudden alarm caused by the Pakistani troop movements has led to the Indian forces being placed on a state of 'red alert' and a continuing series of high-level crisis meetings. A flurry of diplomatic moves and warnings has led to the visit of the Pakistani Foreign Secretary to discuss steps to defuse the tension. Through the period of the crisis the Supreme Commander of the Pakistani forces was participating in the Islamic summit in Kuwait much to the chagrin of his Senators who felt his place in the crucial period was in Pakistan, and laying plans to witness a cricket Test match in India. Was there a crisis at all? Was someone merely pulling someone else's leg? The credibility gap between subcontinental governments and the media certainly did not provide any illumination.

The facts, to the extent they can be determined, seem to be the following: In November-February India and Pakistan conduct military exercises near each other's borders. Given the history of hostility between the two countries, the exercises and manoeuvres not surprisingly enough simulate hostilities against each other. Sometimes this is done on paper and sand models but every now and then actual troops and vehicles are used. Manoeuvres in this sense are as old as war. However, they also provide an excellent camouflage for launching a surprise attack against an adversary. This was done by the Egyptians in 1973 across the Suez Canal. Further they can also be used to threaten potential adversaries by demonstrating to them the capabilities that can be brought to bear against them. This is the rationale for the American exercises in Central America. For this reason 'peaceful intentions' mandate that a neighbour/potential adversary be informed in advance about the plans. The neighbour does not take anyone at his word and undertakes 'minimum defensive precautions'.

Bigger scale

This year the Indian forces decided to carry out their triennial exercises on a larg-

er-than-usual scale. Beginning with a 'paper exercise' testing its ability to deploy in Punjab in November, Exercise Brasstacks moved towards Rajasthan where some 200,000 troops were deployed for the 'real' exercise. At the outset, India informed Pakistan through normal channels that such exercises were being conducted. Pakistan responded with the information that it too was conducting its own exercises. All was fine till this stage. Then, in early January, Indian military intelligence noticed that Pakistani formations that had come out of their cantonments for the exercises were not moving back. There was no unease at this and it was assumed that these were part of 'minimal precautions' taken by the Pakistani army till the Indian exercises were over.

Only casualty

A week or two later however, information was received that not only were these formations not moving back but two strike formations of the Pakistani army were taking up what are called 'launch' positions, i.e., concentrations in positions from which only attacks are launched, such as the Suleimanke headworks on the Sutlej near Fazilka. At this stage, the alarm was given and diplomatic warnings issued. The reasons for the moves are shrouded in mystery. Speculation of course abounds but only the Pakistan President, Gen. Zia, may know the truth. In any case the only 'casualty' so far has been Mr. V. P. Singh who lost his important Finance portfolio in another kind of manoeuvre!

Indian defence officials take a relaxed view of the 'crisis'. They note that whatever the intentions of the adversary, their job is to ensure that minimum defensive precautions are taken. The Indian army, contrary to a section of opinion, has not rushed fresh troops to the Punjab border, but ordered the troops in place (normally 6-7 divisions) to take forward defensive positions. Exercise Brasstacks they emphasise is being carried out by its full complement of men (some 200,000 men according to Pakistani claims) without in any way detracting from a sound defensive posture.

Complicated relationship

Geography, history and culture have made the two countries contentious neighbours feeding off a rivalry alternately reviled and promoted by their friends and enemies alike as well as used by the political elite in both countries to promote their own goals. The recent contretemps over the largescale manoeuvres by the military forces points to the complicated relationship between the two countries. For the past year, ties have alternated between the possibility of their arriving at a path-breaking agreement on not attacking each other's nuclear facilities to accusations and counter-accusations of intervention by one country in the internal affairs of the other. The unpredictable nature of the relationship is such that a statement on the possibility of the Prime Minister, Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, making a long promised visit to Pakistan has cost the top official in the Ministry of External Affairs his job.

It is easy to see India's nervousness over the Pakistani moves on the border. Ever since the Bangladesh war, certain circles in Pakistan have been nursing a grudge against India and have utilised every opportunity to buildup Pakistani forces. Given the history of adventurism against India by the Pakistani army, abundant caution has been the hallmark of Indian policy. The situation has been severely aggravated since the U.S. decided that Pakistan as a 'frontline State' deserved the maximum possible assistance to refurbish its military forces. The U.S. ignored Indian security concerns and geopolitical compulsions and has sought to equate Pakistan (which is one-seventh India's size) with the subcontinental giant. Equally dangerous has been the Punjab crisis where Pakistan has aided and abetted a secessionist movement.

Military balance

The 1986-87 military balance computed by the Institute of Strategic Studies indicates that the Pakistani army consists of 450,000 men along with 500,000 reserves (recently demobilised servicemen who can be recalled to service at short notice). Thirty thousand of its armed force personnel serve almost every West Asian nation. This totals up to nearly a million men. India with far greater security commitments has a 1.1-million army plus 200,000 reserves of which nearly 110,000 in seven mountain divisions are not deployed on the Indo-Pak border. (The latest military balance does not explain how India's mountain divisions have come down from 10 in last year's counting to seven currently). However even this totals 1.3 million men, not all that much over Pakistan's 0.93 million. It must be noted that the Pakistani army is two-thirds larger than Ayub Khan had for his military adventure in 1965 and this despite the fact that with the formation of Bangladesh its area of responsibility is sharply reduced. Interestingly enough an American Congressional hearing in February 1985 was informed that since 1980 (the year of the 'Soviet threat') Pakistan had ac-

tually shifted one infantry division from its western border to the east facing India.

Resources on call

The most significant aspect of the Pakistani build-up has been its ability to tap the resources of West Asia and the U.S. to finance its military budget as well as have access to the frontline U.S. technology in its weapons acquisitions. U.S. support in the last package from 1981-86 was roughly \$1 billion per annum (including funds committed for the Afghans). The new package being negotiated will provide Pakistan with \$3.2 billions of security assistance alone and has been described by the U.S. Assistant Secretary for Defence, Mr. Richard Armitage, as being 'unprecedented.' Equally important is the fact that this package may see an easing of the terms of repayment of both the old and the new package from the 11-14 per cent interest and seven-year repayment to 3-6 per cent interest with a 30-year repayment plan. Then there is the support received by Pakistan from its West Asian connection. In the late 1970s, Abu Dhabi financed the \$330 million purchase of 32 Mirage-V fighters and the Saudis financed the \$800 million F-16 package. Given Pakistani assistance in guarding the Saudi Royal family, more money will certainly be forthcoming for purchases in the coming years.

Pakistani acquisitions follow a two-track policy — obtaining large numbers of simple but effective weapons from China and acquiring lesser numbers of highly capable American systems. Moves are afoot now to marry the two through, for example, a scheme to produce the F-7M Airguard (a Chinese variant of the MIG-21) with Western avionics such as fire-control radars, head-up displays and missiles. Such a pattern is likely to be followed in other areas as well, say in the case of naval acquisitions where cheaper Chinese hardware could be married to Western electronic and weapons systems. The easing of controls on Western technology export to China is likely to benefit Pakistan indirectly.

A case in point may be made with regard to the MIG-23/27 aircraft of which India has quite a few. In terms of range and capacity to carry armament and avionics they are vastly inferior to even the superb American Phantom of Vietnam war vintage. A combat aircraft to be effective must also have means for locating a target and directing a strike against it using weapons that must be able to home with accuracy defying possible countermeasures. In all these areas the Pakistani F-16's with a multi-mode radar like the APG-66, the AN/ALQ131 automatic infrared and chaff dispensing pods and the ALR-69 computerised radar warning receiver, the AIM-9L all-aspect missile, are far superior to whatever India has. The Syrian defeat in 1982 in the Bekaa Valley in Lebanon at the hands of the Israelis who were using highly complex electronic warfare techniques is a pointer to the danger. The F-16C which Pakistan hopes to acquire will have an integral automatic self-protection jammer, freeing two external stations for

the hardware that it is acquiring. Critics will aver that on this score India cannot complain considering its own acquisitions. Some observers have viewed the Indian military planners' penchant for hardware as being tantamount to a degree of techno-military romanticism, a sort of a modern Maginot Line complex. After all, Israel still has in service some 1,100 Centurion tanks discarded by India more than a decade ago. China has only recently set up production lines for the MIG-21 copy and the F-7M Airguard with Western avionics while India has gone in for newer models like the MIG-27 and MIG-29. The edge that Pakistan intends to gain is in the area of electronic warfare and here the assistance of its ally, the U.S., is important.

The Pakistani army thus is certainly as big as the forces India can deploy against it. Only general staff handling military forces can explain the difficulties involved in shifting even 5,000 fully equipped troops from one end of the country to another. In the short-duration wars India and Pakistan have fought it is not the theoretical size of the Indian military that counted but the forces in place or planned for deployment in a particular region. Most Indian military officials note that on the ground, on the sea or in the air the Indo-Pak military balance is roughly equal. For example, one naval 'bean-count' shows 62 ships and patrol craft for India and 48 for Pakistan. But the Indian Eastern Fleet has 10-20 vessels at any given time and redeploying them can take considerable time. The same is of course true of the IAF and more so of the army.

Hardware acquisition

Over the years Pakistan has systematically acquired a considerable amount of hardware and upgraded existing weapons like the M-48 or Type-59 tanks. Besides the well-known acquisition of F-16 aircraft, in 1984 Pakistan placed orders for three Type-21 Frigates from the U.K., 100 Qiang-5 ground attack fighters, four Huang Fen type patrol craft from China, 16 Harpoon ship-to-ship missiles and 100 M-48A5 tanks from the U.S. An order for 500 AIM9L Sidewinder air-to-air missiles and 100 Stinger man-portable missiles was made in early 1985 which was followed that year with orders for ten Q-5 Fantan strike aircraft, an order for an undisclosed number of RBS-70 hand-held SAMs from Sweden, 88 M-109A2 155 mm self-propelled Howitzers, 110 M-113A2 armoured personnel carriers and over 2,000 of the highly capable BGM-71C improved TOW anti-tank missiles. Future orders for M-60A3 tanks, F16C and F-7M aircraft and the AWACS are expected.

But Pakistan's edge does not come from LANTRIN (low altitude navigation and targeting infrared for night system), a major enhancement that will according to one observer triple the aircraft's capabilities. It will also have an enhanced fire control radar to handle the long-range missiles that have been developed.

In line with this a major Pakistani effort is towards enhancing the aircraft's target acquisition, surveillance and electronic warfare

capabilities. In ordinary parlance it means the ability to locate targets with greater precision and direct counter strikes. To this end Pakistan is reported to have already received the OV1D Mohawk battlefield surveillance aircraft that enable an army commander to look up to a maximum of 100 km into enemy territory through a high resolution, side-looking radar and pinpoint the movement of tanks and vehicles. Such information would be invaluable for a commander who can then deploy air power as well as long-range artillery with great accuracy. Pakistan has also got the AN/TPQ-36 and AN/TPQ-37 battlefield radar systems. The former locates mortar positions with great speed and accuracy and the latter artillery positions by tracking the incoming shells thus enabling immediate counter-bombardment. Given the fact that modern artillery with a 20-30 km range has to be deployed 10-15 km inside the forward lines, its early and precise location and elimination can negate any edge in mere numbers. Such equipment serves the function of 'force multipliers' and this is the area defence specialists aver that needs to be watched carefully.

Potent force multiplier

In this context it can be seen that the acquisition of an Airborne Early Warning and Control System (AWACS) would be a potent force multiplier and negate the edge India may have in the number of aircraft. In any case in the past six years Pakistan has acquired nearly half a billion dollars worth of ground based radars to strengthen its already superior ground coverage of India. This seems to be the key to Pakistani strategy and this is logical considering the U.S. superiority in the area of micro electronics, computers and sensors and precision guided munitions.

India has had to bear a heavy burden in its defence expenditure to match the Pakistani programmes. The induction of some 40 Mirage-2000 aircraft costing some \$30 millions apiece is a case in point. Last year, to match the accepted Pakistani superiority in towed and self-propelled artillery, India placed an order for 400 FH77B 155 mm Howitzers costing \$1 billion from Sweden. The revised estimates for last year's defence budget are likely to be in the region of Rs. 9,000 crores and taking into account the pay boost to the military as per the Pay Commission recommendations next year's figures are projected at Rs. 11,900 crores. This sum is a severe strain on the Indian economy, though it is not correct to argue that Indian expenditures are inordinately heavy. After all the Seventh Plan budgeted Rs. 45,000 crores (at 1984-85 prices) for the Plan period and the expenditure in the first two years of the Plan have been below the budgeted amounts. Even the seemingly high figure projected for the coming year will be around five per cent (though they have generally been around four per cent in recent years) of the GNP as compared to the average of seven per cent for Pakistan.

War of attrition

One aspect of the solution lies in the area of long-range planning of acquisitions and

comprehensive monitoring of defence expenditure, not in the bureaucratic sense it is done now but through stressing cost-effective solutions. The Indian order for the 155 mm towed artillery pieces from Sweden took nearly eight years to fructify. There is now a refreshing change towards promoting indigenous weapons systems and the accent on 'genuine' R&D can be testified to by a glance at the last five years' budget for the Defence Research and Development Organisation.

However, a lesson from the Iran-Iraq war can also be learnt. Pakistan may be put on notice that adventurism against India would be met with a long war of attrition rather than a short war that militates against India in the Pakistani scenario.

Another strategy could be, say, raising 10 more squadrons of Indian-made and updated MIG-21s or another armoured division of uprated Vijayantas rather than a one-to-one matching of 'sophisticated' weapons where India would have to expend invaluable foreign exchange resources and actually be in a situation where it cannot obtain comparable technology even for money. This is certainly the case with the AWACS. This could also be done through publicising a build up of munitions and stocks of spares for a 'three-month' rather than a 'three-week' war where India's size and economic strength will come into play. A larger challenge really lies in evolving a strategy to deal with Pakistan as a political rather than a military entity, stressing India's desire for stable and peaceful relations and promoting Indo-Pakistani friendship in a manner that will prevent its being held hostage by military pinpricks.

/9274
CSO, 4600/1452

BSF UNEARTHS THREE PAK ESPIONAGE NETWORKS

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 5 Feb 87 p 6

[Text]

Jammu, Feb 4 (PTI)—The Border Security Force (BSF) today claimed to have busted three Pak espionage networks operating from different places in the border region of Jammu, by apprehending 23 persons, including some Pakistani nationals and an army personnel.

The inspector general of BSF Jammu frontier, Mr Shalinder Nath Misra, told newsmen here that these espionage networks were operating from the Jammu region for the Pakistan military intelligence field Intelligence Unit (FIU), which is supervising espionage, sabotage and subversive activities in some parts of the northern India, especially in Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir.

Mr Misra said the first network was smashed with the arrest of Naik Kamaljeet Singh Randhawa, who provided information and clues about other members of the gang. He also said he had made frequent trips to Pakistan including Sialkot.

Mr Misra said the BSF intelligence also succeeded in nabbing the "kingpin" of the gang, Sayeed Khalid Mehmood, of the Pak Intelligence Unit (FIU), from a locality of Jammu City.

On interrogation Khalid confessed that he was the "resident source" of the Pakistan espionage network. A forged identity card in the name of "Ashok Kumar Dy. SP (CUD)" was also recovered from him.

Mr Misra said Khalid also revealed that he had visited Army units and other security installations with this card, and was getting information about Indian defence installations. The Pak spy also disclosed his links with some Indians who were arrested and interrogated.

Mr Misra said one Faiz Singh, a resident of Samba, with whom Khalid used to stay was also taken into custody. Daya Ram, an ex-serviceman, who was the informer of Khalid was also arrested. A Srinagar based businessman Ameer Shah, another contact of Khalid was also arrested, Mr Misra added.

Mr Misra said with the arrest of Ghulam Mohammed Bhatt alias Janak Raj, Mohammed Aslam alias Sohan Lal, Mansoor Ahmed alias Ashoka, and Shabir Ahmed, the BSF intelligence wing also unearthed an active gang of Pak nationals operating for espionage network from Jammu.

/9274
CSO: 4600/1444

DATES FOR TALKS WITH PRC TO BE DECIDED

Madras THE HINDU in English 9 Feb 87 p 9

[Article by G. K. Reddy]

[Text]

NEW DELHI, Feb. 8.

At the Republic Day reception on January 26 at Rashtrapati Bhavan, the Prime Minister, Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, told the Chinese Ambassador, Mr. Li Lianqing, that the two countries should work together to settle the border problem.

The Prime Minister said this in the course of a brief chat as he moved around meeting the Ambassadors and High Commissioners of various countries attending the reception. An interesting follow up development was that the Minister of State for External Affairs, Mr. K. Natwar Singh, who was present during this informal exchange, invited the Chinese Ambassador straightway to his residence for a more detailed discussion, when Mr. Li expressed a desire to meet him at his convenience.

But so far no tangible progress has been made even in talking of suitable dates for the next round of talks in Delhi. As India will be playing host, it is China's turn, according to established diplomatic practice, to set the ball rolling by suggesting tentative dates subject to mutual convenience.

Almost a whole decade after the 1962 Sino-Indian border conflict, Chairman Mao greeted the Indian Charge d'Affaires, Mr. Brajesh Mishra, at the October 1 parade in Beijing in 1971 and asked him to convey his good wishes to the Indian leaders, which set in motion the process of restoration of full diplomatic representation in both the capitals five years later, leading in turn to the thaw in Sino-Indian relations.

The Government of India is not attaching any comparable significance to Mr. Rajiv Gandhi's remark to the Chinese Ambassador, since the two countries continue to maintain fairly correct relations despite the Sumdorong Chu valley episode, and no ice needs to be broken at the higher political level for carrying forward the official level talks to keep the dialogue going on the border dispute.

Internal debate: One of the first things that the External Affairs Minister, Mr. N. D. Tiwari, wants to do after the new Foreign Secretary, Mr. K. P. S. Menon, gets back from Beijing and takes charge of his assignment, is to initiate an internal debate within the Ministry and define the policy positions, before discussing the matter with the Prime Minister and his senior cabinet colleagues.

There has been no worthwhile discussion within the Government on the China issue for the past several months whether it is on the territorial aspects of the border dispute or on the geopolitical and geostrategic implications of some of the strident Chinese pronouncements on Arunachal Pradesh in the wake of the Sumdorong Chu episode.

The too frequent changes in the Ministry of External Affairs came in the way of any worthwhile internal debate within the Government, but the Prime Minister's other preoccupations also made it impossible to set aside enough time for discussing this most important element in the conduct of the country's foreign relations.

Careful assessment needed: It is quite possible that China is no longer attaching the same degree of importance to an early settlement of the border dispute even on its own terms, because of its internal turmoils and leadership changes. But it has to be carefully assessed by Indian experts whether this fading interest is due to a marked hardening of the Chinese attitude, before formulating India's approach to the next round of talks which are to be held in Delhi.

If there is a reasonable relationship between India and China, even in the absence of a border settlement, it will have a salutary effect on neighbouring countries like Pakistan, Nepal and Bangladesh which are prone to take advantage of any undue tensions between them. The China policy has to be examined both in its bilateral and multilateral contexts to be able to make a correct assessment of the Chinese intentions.

ANALYST ON GANDHI TALKS WITH FINNISH PRESIDENT

Madras THE HINDU in English 4 Feb 87 p 9

[Article by G. K. Reddy]

[Text]

NEW DELHI, Feb. 3.

At the Indo-Finnish talks today, the Prime Minister, Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, is reported to have been greatly impressed by the incisive analysis of the European scene, especially the impact of the new Soviet policies on East-West relations, by the visiting President of Finland, Dr. Mauno Koivisto, who spoke eloquently of Mr. Mikhail Gorbachev's role in creating an atmosphere of better understanding with a spirit of accommodation.

The senior Indian officials who prepared the briefs for Mr. Rajiv Gandhi recalled that, when the former Prime Minister, Indira Gandhi, visited Helsinki in 1983, Dr. Koivisto gave her a very detailed assessment of the impending changes in Soviet policies and attitudes after the death of Leonid Brezhnev, when the outside world was not too certain of how the sick Yuri Andropov was going to conduct them.

He followed up with a private letter addressed to Mrs. Gandhi after his first meeting with Andropov in Moscow, and much of what he said in that personal communication foreshadowed brilliantly of the historic transformation of the Soviet Union, when the outside world knew very little of what was happening behind the scenes in the Kremlin.

Special ties with Moscow

As a next door neighbour of the Soviet Union, Finland has been pursuing a policy of active neutrality in maintaining a special relationship with Moscow without prejudice to its freedom to retain its close ties with the West, while steering clear of any involvement in the big power rivalries in Europe. As such this gallant little democracy of only five million people has been able to preserve its special political identity and it was a great tribute to the statesmanship of its leaders that Helsinki was chosen as the venue of the European security conference.

It was against this impressive background that Mr. Rajiv Gandhi warmly welcomed the very sympathetic attitude of Finland to the six-nation, five continent appeal for nuclear disarma-

ment. In indicating his country's readiness to make its expertise available for verification if the big powers agreed to a total suspension of further nuclear tests, Dr. Koivisto left the door open for Finland joining these six nations at a later stage to give a wide international dimension to this campaign.

As one who had served with distinction as Governor of the Bank of Finland, then as Finance Minister and finally as Prime Minister, before he succeeded the legendary Urko Kekkonen as President in 1982, the 63-year old Dr. Koivisto is widely regarded as one of Europe's most dynamic statesmen who is respected highly by both the East and the West. His excellent grasp of European power politics is ably supplemented by his deep understanding of the complexities of the economic cross-currents on the continent. His own role in putting the Finnish economy on a firm foundation with some stringent measures to check inflation and increase production is widely recognised in Europe.

As a bilateral democracy with strong traditions of freedom, Finland has been in the forefront of Western countries opposing apartheid and pressing for majority rule in South Africa. Along with other Nordic countries Finland has also been one of the founding members of the Southern African Development Coordination Conference (SADCC).

The Finnish President, therefore, evinced great interest in the appeal and action programme adopted by the AFRICA summit last month in Delhi to mobilise resources for helping the frontline Southern African States working in close concert with SADCC. It is India's hope that, apart from contributing to this fund, Finland would use its influence in Western Europe to enlist support for this noble venture.

Wide ranging talks

The talks today conducted at two levels, with the two heads of Government making a tour d'horizon of the global scene and the two Foreign Ministers, Mr. N. D. Tiwari and Mr.

Paavo Vayrynen and their colleagues dealing with issues of bilateral cooperation, were quite wide-ranging and comprehensive. The economic relationship is minimal between these two countries which as one wag put it are neighbours separated by only one big country, the Soviet Union.

Apart from establishing closer political contacts Dr. Koivisto's visit to India is intended to create a better awareness of the wide areas of technical cooperation open to both Governmental agencies and commercial establishments in the two countries in their common interest. There is an attempt to diversify this relationship and lay proper foundations for increased co-operation in future.

The Finnish President and his wife were accorded a ceremonial welcome on their arrival in Delhi today, after a day's stop-over in Agra to see the Taj Mahal and other historic monuments there. They will be paying a trip to Trivandrum before returning to Helsinki at the conclusion of their five-day State visit.

/9274
CSO: 4600/1440

REPORT ON MEETING OF INDO-YUGOSLAV JOINT COMMITTEE

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 4 Feb 87 p 10

[Text]

Belgrade, Feb 3 (PTI) — India and Yugoslavia, whose bilateral trade has risen from \$ 36 million to \$ 132 million over the past two years, have decided to increase this year's turnover by 50 per cent, according to officials here.

The decision was taken at the just-ended 16th session of the Indo-Yugoslav joint committee meeting here in which Commerce Minister P Shiv Shanker led India and Dr Radoje Knotic, Yugoslav federal secretary and co-chairman of the committee, led the host country.

Major Indian exports to Yugoslavia are coffee, tea, electronic consumer goods and components, iron ore concentrates and pellets, tyres and textiles.

India imported a number of products including PVC, polyethylene, polypropylene, paper, steel and steel products.

Mr Shiv Shanker also met Prime Minister Branko Mikulic and Vice President Lazar Pavic, discussing ways of promotion fur-

ther economic cooperation between India and Yugoslavia.

Yugoslavia will provide machineries and equipment repayable through exports of Indian goods under a credit agreement between Industrial Development Bank of India and its Yugoslav counterpart, according to official sources.

The two sides also agreed on long term contracts in several identified areas.

The joint committee also discussed several areas of cooperation in industries including electronics, energy, consumer electronics, aluminium silicate complex, bicycles and mopeds, tractors and other agricultural machinery, telecommunication, machine tools and cutting tools.

The industrial collaboration would also include projects in third countries.

Expansion of cooperation in science and technology particularly in high tech sectors has also been decided, officials said.

/9274
CSO: 4600/1441

PAPER REPORTS ON ACQUISITION OF FOREIGN FIGHTER PLANES

Soviet MIG Offer

Calcutta THE TELEGRAPH in English 5 Mar 87 p 4

[Text]

New Delhi, Feb. 4: The AICC(I) president, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, today appointed the central observers and PCC election committees for the West Bengal and Jammu and Kashmir Assembly elections scheduled for March 23. The AICC(I) general secretaries, Mr R.L. Bhatia and Mrs Najma Heptullah have been given charge of the two states respectively.

The AICC(I) general secretary, Mr G.K. Moopanar, announced that the PCC(I) chiefs, Mr Priya Ranjan Das Munshi (West Bengal) and Mr G.R. Kar (Jammu and Kashmir), will head a 21-member election committee in each state.

The senior member of the Central Parliamentary Board, Mr Darbara Singh, and the Union ministers, Mrs Mohsina Kidwai, and Mr Jagdish Tytler will be observers for West Bengal. The Central observers will also scrutinise the list of party candi-

dates for the state Assembly and forward it for the approval of the Central Parliamentary Board.

The West Bengal election committee includes the CLP(I) leader, Mr Abdus Sattar, Mr A.B.A Ghani Khan Choudhury, Mr Asoke Sen and Mr Ajit Panja (in their capacity as PCC members), Mr Apurbal Majumdar, Mr Pradeep Bhattacharya, Mr Somen Mitra, Mr Rajesh Khaitan and presidents of the state Youth Congress(I) and Chhatri Parishad.

Mr Das Munshi, immediately after the announcement of the election committee said the selection of candidates would be made in the most democratic and decentralised manner. The desirous candidates will be asked to apply through the DCC(I) by February and a copy sent to the PCC(I). The PCC election committee will have its first meeting on February 11.

He was hopeful that the Congress(I) would be able to form the government this time as the

people were disgusted with the CPI(M) government for increasing the state's economic and industrial backwardness.

Mr Moopanar said the Union minister, Mr P.V. Narasimha Rao, in his capacity as senior member of the Central Parliamentary Board and two other Union ministers, Mr Rajesh Pilot and Mr Z.R. Ansari, had been appointed observers for Jammu and Kashmir.

The committee consists of Mr G.R. Kar, (president), Union minister, Mufti Mohammad Syed, Mr G.L. Dogra, MP, Mr Trilochan Dutta, Bhagat Chhajuram, Mr M.N. Koul, Ghulam Mohammad Mir Lasjan, Mian Bashir Ahmed, Mr P. Namgyal and Mr P. Sayed.

Mr Moopanar refused to discuss seat adjustments between the Congress(I) and the National Conference, but highly-placed party sources were confident that two parties would arrive at a consensus.

French Mirage 2000's

Calcutta THE TELEGRAPH in English 5 Mar 87 p 7

[Text]

Ahmedabad, Feb. 4 (UNI): France will soon supply to India the remaining nine Mirage-2000 fighter aircraft, the French ambassador, Mr Jean-Bernard Merimee, said here today.

Talking to newsmen, Mr Merimee, who is on a three-day

visit to Gujarat, said France was bound to supply to India the spare parts for the aircraft under the contract. He said, "The fighters are giving excellent service and there is no problem." Forty Mirage-2000 have already been delivered.

Mr Merimee said his country was eager to set up nuclear energy plants in India and to provide knowhow in this respect. However, he clarified that his country would supply enriched uranium to India only if it accepted the rules of the International Atomic Energy Association.

Mr Merimee said India had turned down a French proposal to set up a plant for the manufacture of the Mirage-2000 at Hindustan Aeronautics Limited in Bangalore.

Mr Merimee said recent liberalisations in India's industrial policy had encouraged French entrepreneurs to develop business and trade links with India. He said several entrepreneurs had evinced keen interest to set up joint projects.

/9274
CSO: 4600/1443

DEFENSE INSTITUTE OFFICIAL ON WEAPONS NEEDS

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 5 Feb 87 p 5

[Text]

India will have to develop long-range air superiority and concurrent anti-submarine warfare capabilities to safeguard its economic and strategic interests in the Indian Ocean, says Air Cdr Jasjit Singh, Deputy Director of the Institute of Defence Studies and Analyses, reports UNI.

Superpower politics and the conflicting security perceptions of regional developing countries was resulting in the deterioration of the security environment of the Indian Ocean, he said in an article "Indian Ocean-future challenges", published in the latest issue of the Indian Defence Review.

He said the super power's heavy reliance on satellites, not only for conventional warfare but also in the event of a nuclear conflict, and on ballistic missiles left countries in the Indian

Ocean region with little option except to structure their security doctrines on greater indigenous autonomous capabilities to safeguard their vital interests.

Air Cdr Jasjit Singh said India's maritime security doctrine may be seen to flow from the broader security doctrine as articulated by Jawaharlal Nehru who had emphasised the need for national policies to be in consonance with the traditional background and temper of the country.

In the past about 40 years, India had developed its maritime power from a virtually non-existent capability. Yet it was far from adequate to meet the legitimate security commitments of a country with a 7,000-km coastline and a hostile neighbour's powerful navy.

More than 97 per cent of India's trade was by way of the sea routes of the India Ocean, and any prolonged disruption would seriously affect the country's economic stability, he said.

India's potential adversaries possessed a significant number submarines and surface warships to pose a serious threat to Indian trade well outside the range of any air cover which could be provided by Indian land-based air power.

According to the Air Commodore, warship escorts for the merchant marine could not guarantee safety in the face of threats on the high seas from submarines and maritime surveillance aircraft. This scenario called for long-range air superiority and concurrent anti-submarine warfare capabilities, he said.

/9274
CSO: 4600/1444

COMMISSIONER ANNOUNCES DATES OF STATE ELECTIONS

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 5 Feb 87 p 1

[Text]

NEW DELHI, Feb. 4.—West Bengal, Jammu and Kashmir and Kerala will go to the polls on March 23 while Haryana will elect its Legislature in April or May.

The date was announced by the Chief Election Commissioner, Mr R. V. S. Peri Sastri, late tonight, after a four-hour conference with the chief electoral officers of the four States.

He was "unhappy" that Haryana could not go to the polls at the same time as the "revision of electoral rolls will take some more time."

The notifications for elections to the West Bengal, Kerala and Jammu and Kashmir Assemblies will be issued on February 16 and the last date for filing nominations will be February 23.

Scrutiny of nominations will be done the next day while the last date for withdrawal of candidature will be February 27.

Kerala had sought elections on March 15 but Holi will not permit a common programme of elections in the three States. March 22, being a Sunday, was also regarded as unsuitable for the large Christian population. March 23, a Monday, will be declared a holiday in the three States for polling.

The constituencies of Kargil and Leh in Ladakh being snow-bound will have elections in summer.

The new Legislatures in the three States will be constituted within two or three days of polling to enable them to pass vote on account, especially in Kashmir where the Assembly was dissolved on November 7, last year.

The Chief Election Commissioner said the three State Governments had given their consent to March 23.

Simultaneously by elections from three Lok Sabha constituencies—Nanded (Maharashtra), Secunderabad (Andhra) and Hardwar (U.P.) will be held besides two by-elections to the Andhra Assembly one to Gujarat, three to U.P. Assembly (Rashipur, Rath and Patti) and one in Puducherry.

The Bhiwani Lok Sabha seat from Haryana and two Punjab Assembly seats will be filled later.

Mr Peri Sastri said the Election Commission "has to function in a very sensitive area—the area of politics". There were new developments, moves, counter-moves, strategies and counter-strategies w/ regard to elections.

It would have liked to have a "common programme" for general elections to the four States but had succeeded in doing so in three States.

He was "quite unhappy to have had to take the decision to delink elections to the Haryana Assembly from the other States."

The commission was "in a dilemma" over how to organize a common programme. But it has been "working under constraints."

Although it had been "given the full discretion, it has heavy limitations and responsibilities", he said.

PTI adds from New Delhi:
The Congress (I) president, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, today constituted the Pradesh Election Committees for Jammu and Kashmir and West Bengal for selection of party candidates for the coming Assembly elections in the two States.

The Human Resources Minister, Mr P. V. Narasimha Rao, who is also a member of the party's Parliamentary Board and two Union Ministers of States, Mr Rajesh Pilot and Mr Z. R. Ansari, have been appointed AICC's observers to Jammu and Kashmir.

Mr Darbara Singh, a member of the Parliamentary Board, the Urban Development Minister, Mrs Mohsin Kidwai, and the Minister for Civil Aviation, Mr Jagdish Tytler, have been appointed observers for West Bengal.

The announcement for the constitution of the PECs for Jammu and Kashmir and West Bengal was made by the AICC (I) general secretary, Mr G. K. Moopanar.

The PEC for Jammu and Kashmir is headed by the PCCD president, Mr G. R. Kar. The members are the Tourism Minister,

Mufti Mohammed Saeed, Mr G. L. Dogra, Mr Trilochan Dutta, Mr Bhagat Chhajju Ram, Mr Ghulam Nabi Azid, Mr M. N. Kaul, Ghulam Mohamed Mir Lajjan, Mr Pashar Ahmed, Mr P. Namgyal and Mr P. Saeed.

Mrs Najma Heptullah, AICC (I) general secretary, has been given charge of the party affairs of Jammu and Kashmir.

The West Bengal PCC will be headed by the PCC president, Mr Priya Ranjan Das 'Munshi', and its members are Mr Abdul Sattar, Mr A. B. A. Khan, Khan Choudhary, Mr Asoke Sen, Mr Ajit Panja, Mr Aurbhalal Majumdar, Mr Pradeep Bhattacharya, Mr Somen Mitra and Mr Barish Khanan. Mr R. L. Bhattacharya, AICC (I) general secretary, has been given charge of party affairs in West Bengal.

In Calcutta, the ruling Left Front chairman, Mr Saroj Mukherjee, tonight charged the Election Commission with "committing gross injustice" to West Bengal by disregarding its suggestion for holding the Assembly election on February 22.

Commenting on the announcement of the poll date, Mr Mukherjee said the scheduled date would put students in difficulty as they would be busy with examinations. Besides the Budget for the State would have to be prepared "within a very short period", he added.

Our Special Representative adds:
The CPI(M) State committee, which is meeting in Calcutta tomorrow, will review the party's preparations for the ensuing Assembly poll.

Mr Jyoti Basu today said in Calcutta the date for the Assembly poll would create some difficulties as the State Budget would have to be placed by the new Government, adds UNI. He said there would be very little time left for the new Government to place the Budget.

"That's why we wanted the Assembly poll to be held on February 22", he said and added "However, we are helpless".

Expressing his surprise over the announcement that Assembly elections in three States would be held on the same date, Mr Basu said he did not see why West Bengal had to wait for elections in other States.

However, it was good that at long last the Election Commission had announced the date for the Assembly election in the State, he added.

The effective strength of the West Bengal Legislative Assembly is 294. There are three vacancies.

The Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly has a total strength of 76.

The Kerala Assembly has a total strength of 111 members, including a nominated member.

/9274

CSO: 4600/1442

AMENDED GOA LANGUAGE BILL PASSED

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 5 Feb 87 p 1

[Text]

PANAJI, Feb. 4.—Legislation seeking to make Konkani the official language, ensure the use of Marathi "for all or any of the official purposes" in Goa and use of Gujarati in Daman and Diu was passed in the Goa Legislative Assembly tonight after walkouts by the Opposition members in protest against it, reports PTI.

The controversial Language Bill, moved by the Chief Minister, Mr. Pratapsinh Rane during the monsoon session in July 1983, was amended to give a very special status to Marathi bringing it on a par with Konkani in its official use.

One of the major amendments moved by eight protagonists of Marathi in the ruling Congress (I) was accepted by the Chief Minister, who piloted the Bill.

The amendment to the original Bill empowered the Lieutenant-Governor to issue a notification relating to the use of Marathi in Goa and Gujarati in Daman and Diu "for all or any of the official purposes".

The House, which met here on

the opening day, suspended its rules and took up the Official Language Bill which was not slated in the day's agenda after its Business Advisory Committee held a special session during a brief recess to recommend the consideration and passage of the Bill.

The controversial Bill was adopted with a major amendment from eight Marathi protagonist legislators in the ruling party after four hours of debate.

After the Language Bill was adopted, the Goa Assembly was prorogued suddenly by the Lt Governor, though the Assembly was originally summoned for three days from February 4.

The discussion on the Language Bill was expected to be stormy and prolonged and even result in a split in the ruling party with the protagonists of Konkani and Marathi pulling in different directions.

But this was averted by the two AICC emissaries, Mr. R. L. Bhatia, AICC general secretary, and Mr

Chintamani Panigrahi, Union Minister of State for Home, who arrived here late last night. They played a crucial role in bringing about a consensus formula and even acceding opposition members in the discussion.

Immediately after their arrival Mr. Bhatia and Mr. Panigrahi began talks with the Marathi protagonists in the Congress (I) Legislature Party over a dinner hosted by the Chief Minister.

They resumed discussions early this morning with the party legislators and later with leaders of the Opposition Maharashtrawadi Gomantak Party and the Konkani Porjecho Avaz to evolve a consensus formula before the Bill was taken up for discussion in the house.

The Marathi Rajaabhabha Prashipan Samiti today announced that it would observe a Goa bandh on February 9 to protest against the "stepmotherly treatment" meted out to Marathi by the Congress (I), adds UNI.

/9274

CSO: 4600/1442

BRIEFS

ENVOY TO BOTSWANA--Caborne, 8 Feb (XINHUA)--India has appointed Alok Prasad as its first Resident High Commissioner to Botswana, the official radio here said on Friday. The appointment was announced by visiting Minister of State for External Affairs Equardo Faleiro in an address to the Indian community here. Mr Faleiro said the appointment was made in recognition of the "substantial number" of Indians resident in this country. He urged Indians in Southern Africa to rally behind the liberation struggle in the region.
 [Text] [New Delhi PATRIOT in English 9 Feb 87 p 7] /9274

CONGRESS-I-CPSU TIES--Moscow, 31 Jan--Development of party-to-party relations between the CPSU and the Congress (I) was discussed here on Friday by Mr Anatoly Dobrynin, CPSU secretary, and Mr Darbara Singh, member of the Congress (I) parliamentary board, reports PTI. Mr Darbara Singh, as the head of a Friends of the Soviet Union delegation attending Soviet celebration of the Indian Republic Day, also discussed with Mr Dobrynin the situation since the Delhi summit in November 1986. [Text] [Calcutta THE SUNDAY STATESMAN in English 1 Feb 87 p 5] /9274

RAJASTHAN OIL STRIKE--Jodhpur, 30 Jan (PTI)--Huge deposits of oil and natural gas have been detected in 20,000 sq.km. of desert area in Rajasthan, according to Mr Surjeet Chalia, director of Oil India and general manager of the Rajasthan project. A total of 110.6 million metric tonnes of oil and natural gas deposits had been detected and 39 million tonnes of petroleum would be recovered from it in the first phase, he added. Mr Chalia said a detailed survey was being conducted presently in Jaisalmer, Nagaur and Bikaner districts of western Rajasthan for finding out the oil and natural gas resources. [Text] [Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 31 Jan 87 p 1] /9274

INTELLIGENCE BUREAU CHIEF--New Delhi, 29 Jan--Mr M. K. Narayanan, an outstanding IPS officer of the Tamil Nadu cadre, has been appointed Director of the Intelligence Bureau, the highest post in the Indian Police organisation. A Joint Director for the last two years, he will take over from the present Director, Mr H. A. Barari, who retires at the end of March in the normal course. Another Joint Director of the Intelligence Bureau, Mr P. K. Mallick, who is technically senior to Mr Narayanan, has been appointed a Special Secretary in the Home Ministry to clear the way for Mr Narayanan's promotion to this key position. The other appointments of new heads of security and para-military organisations announced today include the promotion of Mr K. L. Wats,

as Director-General of the National Security Guards in charge of protection of the top personalities in the Government. Mr H. P. Bhatnagar has been appointed Director-General of the Border Security Force in place of Mr M. S. Mishra who retires on July 31, Mr B. P. Singhal as the new Director-General of Civil Defence and Mr J. M. Qureshi as Director-General of Indo-Tibetan Border Police in place of Mr O. P. Bhutani. But the new Director of the Research and Analysis Wing (RAW) which deals with external intelligence has not yet been named in place of Mr S. E. Joshi who will be retiring soon. The present Director of the Central Bureau of Investigation, Mr Khare, will retire only in October, but the Government has started looking around for a suitable successor so that the appointment could be announced well in advance. The present Director General of the Punjab Police, Mr J. F. Ribeiro, who belongs to the Maharashtra cadre, is due to retire at the end of May, but he is likely to be given an extension because of the very important work he is doing in fighting terrorism. Our New Delhi Staff Reporter writes: Mr C. S. Dwivedi today took over as new Inspector General of the Central Reserve Police Force, Section III in Delhi. He succeeds Mr K. L. Wats. [Text] [Madras THE HINDU in English 30 Jan 87 p 1] /9274

DMK LEADERS SENTENCED--The DMK president, Mr Karunanidhi, has been sentenced to 10 weeks rigorous and 4 weeks simple imprisonment for showing disrespect to the constitution during the anti-Hindi agitation last month. Both the sentences will run concurrently. The judgment was delivered by the metropolitan magistrate, Mr Muthuswamy, in Madras this afternoon. Five other DMK members, including the party general secretary Mr K. Anbazagan, were also sentenced on similar charges. [Text] [Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 30 Jan 87 BK] /9274

CHANDRA SHEKHAR ILL--Sitamarhi, 28 Jan (PTI)--The Janata Party president, Mr Chandra Shekhar, who came here to attend a meeting of the executive committee of the Bihar state unit of the party, is running high fever and blood pressure, according to doctors attending on him. The Janata Party chief has been advised complete rest. [Text] [Calcutta THE TELEGRAPH in English 29 Jan 87 p 5] /9274

INDO-CANADIAN PANEL--New Delhi, 8 Feb.--The Confederation of Engineering Industry (CEI) and the Canadian Manufacturers Association (CMA) today set up a Joint Committee for industrial cooperation. An agreement to this effect was signed by the CEI Director-General, Mr Tarun Das, and the CMA President, Mr Larry Thibault. Mr K. N. Shenoy, President of the CEI, said the Joint Committee would help follow up the initiatives taken up by both the associations and accelerate the pace of industrial cooperation at the enterprise level. He pointed out that the engineering industry in India was the main vehicle for technology transfer and accounted for 80 percent of all foreign collaborations approved by the Government of India. Mr Larry Thibault said the most viable route in doing business in India was through company to company collaborations. He felt that the 7th Indian Engineering Trade Fair, currently on here, provided an excellent environment for such deals to materialise. Mr Shenoy announced that the members of the Joint Committee from the Indian side would include representatives of Bajaj Auto, Best and Crompton Engineering, Bharat Forge, Thermas, Titagarh Steels, SAIL, Hindustan Brown Boveri, Sundram Fasteners, Lakshmi Machine Works, Premier Automobiles, Crompton Greaves, and the T. I. Group (Murugappa Group). [Text] [Madras THE HINDU in English 8 Feb 87 p 9] /9274

APOLOGY BY FRG TV NETWORK DEEMED INSULTING, INSUFFICIENT

LD201135 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2330 GMT 19 Feb 87

[From the press review]

[Text] JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI has published a commentary about the insulting propaganda of German television regarding the sanctities of the Iranian nation, which will be read for you by my colleague:

In a coordinated and pre-lanned action this week, German television insulted the sanctities of the Iranian nation by showing an insulting film montage. This is not the first time that Western mass media has resorted to such offensive actions, and if a suitable reaction is not shown to these acts they will certainly not be the last.

Some time ago in a similar move, Italian television tried to hurt the feelings of the Iranian people. Now the Germans are trying to repeat the same program. It has been clearly proven that this is an organized and programmed move, that it is being directly led by the CIA, and that the Zionists are also active in this text. This means that we should not regard the action by German television as a chance occurrence and should not adopt a passive and temporary stance toward it. The main aim of these provocative acts is to distort the feats of the revolution and to deliver blows at the sanctity of the Islamic Revolution.

The Germans should not have committed such an unworthy act, but now that they have done so they should receive a response that will make them to regret their act. They should realize that making fun of a revolution and the sanctities of a nation has unpleasant consequences. If we fall short in our response and if we do not show an effective and suitable reaction, there will be the fear that this action may be repeated by another country in the future, and that the United States may tempt another country to engage in a similar shameful impudence.

The reaction should not be symbolic or of a token nature. Our reaction to the Germans should not be limited to the reaction shown toward the Italian Government, because the Germans had witnessed the consequences of that action and have again committed this crime. In the Italian case certain actions were taken, but as soon as the Italian Government apologized everything came to an

end. There is no doubt that the officials of the Islamic Republic acted in good faith on that occasion. However, the point is that the good will shown by the Islamic Republic has been given a different interpretation in Europe, and this is proven by the recent action of the Germans. If those responses were effective and if on that occasion good will was called for, naturally such events would not have been repeated.

It is reported that the head of an FRG television network has apologized for this event. This shows that the Germans have not appreciated the gravity of the affair and have imagined that the issue will come to an end as the result of the apology. In the Italian case, the Italian Government officially apologized and promised to prevent the repetition of such actions. However, this time they have reduced the matter to a mere apology by the head of a German television network. This is a warning bell and we should take the matter seriously.

Fortunately, the alert and omnipresent people have shown their vigilance and far-sightedness regarding this matter too, and have given an ultimatum to the Germans. The Germans have heard the angry cries of the members of the nation, especially the Muslim students of the universities, behind the walls of their embassy in Tehran. This should give a warning to the Germans that those who occupied the U.S. espionage den [the American Embassy in Tehran] also came to the walls of their embassy, and have clearly expressed their anger and revulsion. Perhaps the meaning and significance of this ultimatum is that the procrastination of that country and other necessary guarantees which are called for, can signal the need for action by members of our nation.

This is a message that should convey a clear and decisive warning to whom it is addressed.

/9599
CSO: 4600/154

KHAMENE'I VISITS ATOMIC ENERGY ORGANIZATION OFFICE

LD171953 Tehran IRNA in English 1713 GMT 17 Feb 87

[Text] Tehran, 17 Feb (IRNA)--President 'Ali Khamene'i on Tuesday praised the personnel of the Atomic Energy Organization (AEO) of Iran for their devoted service and contribution to the national self-sufficiency drive.

In his visit to the Tehran branch of the AEO of Iran, Khamene'i paid a tribute to the staffers, technicians, and engineers of the organization and described them along with other expert work force in Iran as the country's most valuable resources.

He said for decades before the triumph of the Islamic Revolution, the powers did their best to kill the initiative among the talented people in Iran and hamper the development of ingenuity and intellectual capabilities with a view to making Iran dependent on the foreign powers.

The president said a principal duty of the executives today is to identify capabilities and help them grow consistent with the needs of post-revolution Iran.

Khamene'i said for a long time in the past, it was argued that because Iran is rich in oil and certain other resources she would not need to explore and exploit other sources of energy in the country, which judgment, he said, was totally erroneous.

President Khamene'i said that throughout the long history both before and after the advent of Islam, Iranians had served humanity in science and humanities and that since the country still continues to boast of valuable human resources, it can therefore attain its lofty goals in every scientific discipline.

During his courtesy visit to the organization, President Khamene'i inspected the various departments of the AEO of Iran.

/9599

CSO: 4600/154

FORMER RAFSANJANI PILOT ASSASSINATED IN HAMBURG

London KEYHAN in Persian 22 Jan 87 pp 1, 2

[London KEYHAN weekly in Persian; founder and publisher Dr Mesbahzadeh]

[Text] German Newspapers: The Line of Terrorism Begins in the Consulate General of the Islamic Republic in Hamburg.

Captain Akbar Mohammadi, Majlis leader Hashemi Rafsanjani's special pilot, was shot to death on Friday morning in West Germany by two unknown persons. According to the German police, the slaying was politically motivated. During the month of Mordad [23 July-22 August], Major Mohammadi fled from Iran to Iraq in Rafsanjani's special aircraft, and from there travelled to the Federal Republic of Germany. Friends of Mohammadi have told the German newspapers that the beginning of the line which lead to this assassination can be found in the Islamic Republic's Consulate General in Hamburg. At this moment criminal police investigators together with the Federal Republic of Germany's security organization are continuing their efforts to find Mohammadi's assailants. On Friday morning at 0900, Akbar Mohammadi took his 4-year old daughter, Delaram, to the nursery school. At 1009, while leaving the nursery, two unknown young men were waiting for him. They at first spoke with him, then one of these two men took out a 7/56 calibre weapon and fired. They shot Mohammadi six times in the back and in the head. The nursery school officials when informed of the attack on Mohammadi, immediately called the police for help. When the ambulance arrived at the scene of the incident, Major Mohammadi was gasping his last breaths of life and he died in the ambulance enroute to the hospital.

The director of the nursery, Gertrude Dudan, aged 59 told the German police that she saw Mohammadi enter the nursery with his daughter, and she saw him hang his daughter's red colored coat in the clothes closet. He then escorted his daughter to the special children's room in which there were 21 other children at the time. Mohammadi then purchased two color photographs taken of his daughter, Delaram, during a nursery school ceremony, and he then left the nursery to go outside. Right at the corner of the nursery school building, there were two men standing and they engaged him in a conversation. One of the men was wearing a green outer garment, the type worn by pilots, and black army boots. The police later found the outer garment in another street near a parking area.

Major Akbar Mohammadi had earlier sent his wife, who was a former Iranair stewardess, together with his daughter, Delaram, to Hamburg and he intended to go to the United States.

Mohammadi was living in a four-room apartment in Hamburg and was keeping his address and telephone number secret. He had been threatened with death a number of times. On Friday, Mohammadi's lawyer told the German newspapers that on Wednesday Mohammadi had called him to say that four groups were out to kill him. Mohammadi's lawyer also said that on 16 January, the very day Mohammadi was assassinated, Mohammadi's request for asylum was being considered. Major Mohammadi had borrowed a silver Ford automobile from his brother, Sa'id Mohammadi, so that he would not have to use public transportation to get around, because he knew that his action had greatly angered the officials of the Islamic Republic. He had strong reasons for doing things secretly particularly since on a number of occasions, through actions taken by the Islamic Republic in Hamburg, his life had been threatened. Because of such threats, Mohammadi sought the assistance of a lawyer, and the lawyer in turn went to police authorities responsible for aliens to request that Mohammadi's application for political asylum be approved, and that a passport be issued to him. The German police told the lawyer that Mohammadi would have to wait 4 weeks for a passport and political asylum. His lawyer, by calling attention to the ever-increasing threats, tried to get temporary transit permission for Mohammadi to get to Spain and from there to make his way to the United States. The German police, however, would not agree to this and they stuck to their decision.

The Hamburg newspapers wrote that: "Khomeyni's hit men were aware of this and, confident that their prey had been refused permission to leave Germany, they assassinated him."

Captain Mohammadi: "I have many truths which I must reveal about the Islamic Republic's officials."

Captain Akbar Mohammadi was an experienced pilot and a well-known athlete in Iran. He was a special pilot for the government of the Islamic Republic. On numerous occasions he piloted airplanes carrying important delegation to OPEC meetings abroad, and he flew Hojjat ol-Eslam Khamene'i's airplane to Pakistan and Tanzania. He was also Majlis Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani's special pilot and piloted Rafsanjani's family to various places. In addition, Mohammadi taught piloting to trainees.

On Tuesday, 19 August, while flying Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani's special aircraft to Rasht, Captain Mohammadi changed his flight plan and flew toward Ardebil. He then crossed into Turkish and Iraqi airspace, landed the aircraft in Mosul and requested political asylum. Mohammadi then left Iraq for West Germany where he was given political asylum [as published]. He lived in the city of Hamburg with his brother Sa'id Mohammadi. Akbar Mohammadi was getting ready to travel to various West German cities and to other countries to give revealing interviews about the Islamic regime, when he was assassinated.

Astronomical Extravagances Paid by the Poor

Captain Mohammadi, after arriving in Frankfurt, gave a special interview to Mehrdad Afshar, KEYHAN's journalist in Hamburg, during which he revealed many truths and spoke candidly about the officials of the Islamic Republic.

Captain Mohammadi said that for all the talk by the leaders of the Islamic regime about the poor state of the country's economy, and their constant call for thrift and belt tightening, in their own personal lives, they deplete the government's treasury so shamelessly, that it is truly intolerable. With regard to Khamene'i's trip to Pakistan, he noted that: "On Khamene'i's trip to Pakistan and subsequently to Africa, four large aircraft--one piloted by me, one jet which previously belonged to the Crown Prince, and two Boeing aircraft carrying Islamic Republic political delegations, accompanied Khamene'i. Seven aircraft, during the course of several weeks, transported the Islamic Republic's president and an entourage of 200 people--including maids, security guards, cooks, butlers and servants, along with several favorites."

He told the KEYHAN journalists: "All of this extravagance was paid for out of the purses of the poor. This extravagance and the slogans which they constantly mouth, formed the basis for my resentment and anger toward the officials of the Islamic Republic. It was on that trip that I made my decision. I could no longer tolerate such scenes and lying by the officials of the Islamic government to the people of my country."

Akbar Mohammadi added: "During those trips I looked upon anyone wanting to board the aircraft as drawing from the resources of the oppressed peoples, and spending the money on themselves. Hojjat ol-Eslam Khamene'i and his traveling companions made the trip to and from Africa with a 50 million toman expense account at their fingertips."

Akbar Mohammadi said that Islamic officials are so afraid of the Iranian people that even during their domestic travels, in addition to having Pasdarans, security men, etc., they also have several jet fighter aircraft escorting them.

As for the officials of the Islamic Republic, pilot Mohammadi said: "I knew 'Ali Akbar Velayati some years ago. We used to be neighbors. In those days he did not yet occupy an official position. But, later on, he joined in on the crimes and corruption of the other officials of the Islamic regime. In any case, the Iranian people will not forgive him either."

Internal Differences of the Islamic Regime

With regard to the morale of military pilots and the situation of Iran's armed forces, pilot Mohammadi said that, unfortunately, many of Iran's trained and valuable pilots have either been killed or have stepped aside. At the present time there are not many such pilots left, and those who are around no longer like their work.

As for the differences which exist within the regime, he said: "Since I, in my capacity as pilot, had a great deal of contact with officials in the government, I witnessed many severe arguments between those officials. There are differences at very high level, and various factions act against one another. Following Khomeyni's death, the flame of civil war will grow more intense and the people are hopeful that a popular regime will come into being."

13041/6662
CSO: 4640/81

FRANCE REPORTEDLY REBUFFS IRAQI ARMS REQUEST

LD261759 Tehran IRNA in English 0842 GMT 26 Feb 87

[Text] London, 26 Feb (IRNA)--The Iraqi minister of state for defence, General Abd al-Jabbar Shanshal, returned from France last week empty-handed, according to a report from Paris.

In a dispatch from the French capital, MIDDLE EAST INTERNATIONAL said that Shanshal arrived in Paris carrying a large military shopping list, including new Mirage jets, helicopters, air-to-ground Exocet missiles, anti-tank missiles and an advanced radar system.

This, it added, has led military experts to believe that the Iraqi Army must have suffered a serious setback during Iran's Karbala'-5 offensive against Basra (started 9 January).

However, after disagreements within the French Government, the biweekly maintained, Shanshal managed only to secure the continued delivery of parts and other hardware within the two countries' existing agreements.

The journal further pointed out that the French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac took the opportunity to urge the Iraqis to pay the many small French companies working in Iraq. "Some of which are facing bankruptcy as a result of not being paid," it said.

Evidently because of Shanshal's failure, reported the journal, Iraqi ruler Saddam dispatched Deputy Prime Minister Tariq 'Aziz to France, referred to as his "foremost foreign emissary and troubleshooter."

In a lightning 48-hour visit, 'Aziz met President Mitterand, Premier Chirac, together with foreign and defence ministers, the magazine added, without any reference to the outcome.

Iraq has heavily depended on France as its largest Western supplier of weapons, to fuel the war it has been raging against Iran for over 6 years.

In stark contrast to the Iraqi rebuff, MIDDLE EAST INTERNATIONAL referred to the French Government's attitude towards Iran, which it said was debating whether to "continue its normalisation of relations" with Tehran.

France has already repaid one third of the dlrs 1 billion lent by the ex-shah's regime, expelled Munafeqeen (MKO) terrorist leader Masud Rajavi and warmed relations between the two countries, it specified.

"This warming of relations has angered Baghdad," the biweekly said, stipulating that the Iraqi regime has "little trust in the government of Chirac."

Since Iraq invaded Iran over 6 years ago, Baghdad has heavily relied upon receiving arms from France.

/9599

CSO: 4600/154

BRITON 'CONFESSES' ON TEHRAN TV

PM130923 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 7 Feb 87 p 19

[Report by KEYHAN political correspondent]

[Text] Roger Cooper, the British spy who was active in the Islamic Republic under the title of "businessman," was identified by our country's intelligence officials 1 year ago and arrested by judicial authorities. Last week he took part in an interview and revealed his activities.

This interview took place in English and was broadcast by the English language section of Islamic Republic of Iran Television. While talking about his activities he openly admitted that he had been spying in Iran.

After his arrest British Government radio and the newspapers in that country insisted for a long time that Roger Cooper was an innocent merchant. Now this interview, especially since it is in English, can make the issue clear for the people of the world and for our countrymen. Following the broadcast of this spy's interview by the English language program British Government radio and that country's foreign office reacted strongly in a statement over the showing of the interview on television.

A British Foreign Office spokesman insisted that "there had never been any accusations made against Roger Cooper" and British Government radio said BIS, which is an acronym for the British Intelligence Service, is an unknown organization.

Although the speed of these circles and their futile efforts to lessen the importance of this arrest itself shows the importance of the issue and Cooper himself, British circles, which are famous for their experience, should not have panicked so quickly.

In any case, here is a text of this interview which was conducted in English. We remind you that the confessions of Roger Cooper, done in Persian, will soon be broadcast on Islamic Republic of Iran Television.

[Unidentified correspondent] Would you please introduce yourself and say how long you have been in Iran?

[Cooper] My name is Roger Cooper. I first arrived in Iran in 1958 and since that time until the revolution, some 20 years, I had permanent residence in Tehran. After the revolution I came to Iran for several short visits. The reason I came to Iran was because since my university days in Oxford I have been familiar with the Persian language and Iranian culture and I wished to follow up this knowledge in Iran itself. After I got a degree in Persian from London University, I got a master's degree from Tehran University. I remind you that in addition to Persian I know several other languages like French, German, Russian, Spanish, and Arabic. I am also familiar with Islamic and Iranian history.

[Correspondent] Mr Cooper, would you please explain what you have been doing during your 20 years' residence in Iran?

[Cooper] When my knowledge of Persian allowed it, I started translating and I became official translator for the country's Fourth and Fifth Welfare Programs. I must note that these two programs included all plans for all of country's economic and welfare projects for the coming 5 years which meant a total of 10 years. Apart from translating, I took part in several technical conferences where I was able to give my views on the future of Iran. In addition to these I cooperated with dozens of ministries and government bodies as a translator and writer. These included banks, economic organizations, the Imperial Court, the Ministry of Arts and Culture, the Ministry of Information, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Prime Ministry, and the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

[Correspondent] As you have just said, you cooperated with dozens of Iranian organizations and government bodies. Naturally, you came across considerable sensitive and important information. Would you please say if you used this useful information or not?

[Cooper] Of course. Since I have access to diverse information I gradually became an expert in various fields. At that time it was quite natural for me to use this knowledge in the interests of my country's goals--be they political, economic, or intelligence. For example when foreign political leaders came to Iran, I sometimes wrote speeches for Hoveyda, the prime minister at that time. These were speeches that dealt with foreign policy and Iran's relations with other nations.

Another example is that in my contacts with the Budget and Planning Organization I realized that the Shah had made a mistake with regard to the Fifth Program and I realized that most of its projects were impractical and that the program would fail. This piece of news was very important for Britain.

[Correspondent] Mr Cooper, in the past, what was Britain's role with regard to the Shah's regime?

[Cooper] Yes. My arrival in Iran coincided with important changes in relations between Britain and Iran. This means that after the 1953 coup,

which was carried out under the direction of the CIA, the United States managed to take over Britain's traditional role in Iran and take control of the country's management. As you know before the nationalization of oil the British oil company's share in this industry was 100 percent. But with the American presence in the management of Iranian affairs this share dropped to 40 percent. Another 40 percent share went to American oil companies and the remaining 20 percent was shared among the British, French, and Dutch companies.

From then on, the United States and Britain in particular and the West in general saw it as their duty to defend the Shah's regime to defend their own interests in Iran, and they guided and controlled him in this direction, the Western direction. We British, because of our 150-year history with Iran, thought that Iran's resources or at least its oil should be under our control. It must be said that this thought was in reality a major intrusion.

[Correspondent] Mr Cooper, you said that Britain and the West controlled Iran. Could you tell us how this control and guidance was done?

[Cooper] Yes. The control and supervision of Iran by Britain and West took many forms. The most important factor was that the Shah, nearly all important officials, including ministers and senior officials, parliamentarians, and senators, and also major people in the private sector were all in favour of the United States and Britain. So it was obvious that they wanted policies which these two governments also wanted. But this was not enough for Britain. To oversee and control internal affairs in Iran and also its foreign policy a widespread intelligence organization was established. The intelligence organization of Israel and the United States were also active in this connection. Of course then the Eastern Bloc expanded its intelligence outfit in Iran to achieve its own goals.

[Correspondent] With regard to your remarks it seems Britain had an intelligence organization to control events in Iran. What was your role in this?

[Cooper] I must say that I was in touch with the British Intelligence Service BIS. I gathered and analyzed information on various subjects and cooperated with this organization. From the beginning of my residence in Iran I was in touch with British Embassy intelligence officials and also those outside the Embassy and I prepared reports on various subjects which I placed at their disposal.

As we saw, gathering information was easy for me. Because I was able to get in touch with most government and nongovernment centers. In reality, my friends and contacts in these organizations became a private network. I was thus able to provide the service's intelligence requirements to a certain extent. In addition to this kind of cooperation, it is natural that I did anything I thought would have been useful for Britain. For example if during my contacts with people I met someone who could help British interests, I would introduce them to the Embassy or to the Service.

[Correspondent] Without a doubt your work was valuable for the intelligence service. So how do you evaluate your work for them?

[Cooper] Yes, my work for the intelligence service was more or less an extraordinary job. In the sense that my reports and my ideas complemented the reports sent by the British Embassy to political officials in London. It could be said that my work was not simple spying and perhaps it was more than that. Of course because there is not enough time I cannot really give more details now. I shall give more details on the subject at a later date.

[Correspondent] Could you tell us how other foreign countries had an intelligence network in Iran?

[Cooper] It must be said that this was a widespread network. Tehran had become a major center for information. In this regard it was even more important than Beirut. You see, apart from the importance of Iran itself, the conditions here were very suitable for intelligence operations throughout the entire region. For example it was very easy for foreign agents to go through the formality of entering Iran and getting residence and work permits here. Therefore professional elements could easily use various types of jobs and did not have to limit themselves to the cover of their embassies.

For example, in the affair of the U.S. nest of spies which was captured by students, in addition to the CIA agents in the embassy there were also a lot of them working outside. Of course the people who worked for these organizations were not all foreigners. For example the British Intelligence Service had a large offshoot made up of Iranian elements. These elements were busy in the political, economic, cultural, and military areas. In other intelligence outfits, both Eastern and Western, the method of work was similar to this.

[Correspondent] You said that some Iranians cooperated with British Intelligence. Who were these people?

[Cooper] Yes, it is very strange, especially to the young Iranians who have grown up after the revolution, that many Iranians were prepared to cooperate with foreign intelligence outfits. In the case of Britain, it must not be forgotten that in the past Britain controlled Iran's affairs to a certain extent and those people who favored Britain believed that British influence would continue even after the 1953 coup.

This is why the expression "British policies" was used by these people up until the revolution and even afterwards. These people saw it in their interest to follow British policies and were therefore prepared to cooperate with the Intelligence Service. These people were not only in Tehran and Abadan but rather were spread throughout Iran, especially in major towns and large cities. Such elements, those who favored the West, were present in government organizations, oil companies, banks, large companies, universities, the armed forces, and even the Bazaar. Directly or indirectly they played an important role in the operations of British and Western intelligence outfits.

[Correspondent] How do you view the situation of the foreign intelligence networks after the revolution?

[Cooper] The conditions in Iran after the revolution are such that operations for both Western and Eastern intelligence organizations are much more difficult. For example, many of the peripheral people have left Iran or have lost their former positions and are no longer involved in the running of the country. So they are less important to intelligence outfits.

I got to understand this situation during my visits after the revolution. Of course it is not a problem and Eastern and Western intelligence units, although weakened, are able to continue their activities in Iran.

[Correspondent] Mr Cooper, as far as you are concerned, what effect has the Islamic Revolution had on Western interests?

[Cooper] It could be said that the Islamic Revolution has totally destroyed all Western interests, especially those of the United States and Britain, in Iran. This is a historic incident which is unprecedented and none of the intelligence organizations were able to predict it. After the success of the revolution it became clear that Iran was a sworn enemy of all Western policies, especially those of Israel and the United States. At the beginning the West was not willing to accept this and it tried to change the direction of the Islamic Revolution or even to destroy the revolution. Of course it must be said that during the first years of the revolution it was somewhat successful in this task.

[Correspondent] Could you give some examples of these efforts?

[Cooper] Well, perhaps the best example I can give is Iraq's military attack against Iran which would have been impossible without the financial and moral support of the West. But with Iran's victories in the war, the West was forced to change its policies. The Iranian people's joyful participation in the war has amazed us because it is our experience that after 3 or 4 years every nation gets tired of war and is ready for peace. But as we have seen the people of Iran see peace as an imposed war.

[Correspondent] A last question: What do you think the West has achieved from its actions with regard to the revolution?

[Cooper] It must be said that because of the people's support and backing for the Islamic revolution it has been proved to us that this revolution is here to stay. Quite contrary to our predictions, the revolution has gotten stronger and more powerful in the face of pressures and attacks. On the other hand the Iranian victories in the war have caused some concern in the West and among Saddam's regional supporters. Also, Iran's growing influence in Lebanon has worried Israel greatly. So, as a result, the West is thinking about changing its policies and wants to improve its relations with Iran.

I think the McFarlane affair is a prime example of this political change of heart on behalf of the West. In reality, this was a great defeat for the United States and a great victory for Iran.

/9599

CSO: 4600/154

KEYHAN HITS BBC LINE ON 'EXPERIENCED SPY' COOPER

PM171605 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 7 Feb 87 p 2

[Editorial by Seyyed Mohammad Ebrahimi]

[Text] John Roger Cooper, whose case has recently been disclosed, has been under arrest in an Islamic Republic jail for more than 1 year. He is perhaps one of the most experienced and professional British spies to have been active in Iran during recent decades.

To comment on his professionalism it is enough that he himself has admitted that his work was above spying and that he gave the British government pointers at the current situation and the future of Iran. During his television confession--which was conducted in English although he speaks fluent Persian--Cooper openly admitted that he was spying for the British Government. He said that in addition to gathering information he prepared analysis reports and that he guided the British intelligence community.

He also said that, with the help of his friends, he had established a private spying network throughout Iran under the guise of commercial affairs. This is why the British government is prepared to pay a high price for the release of this experienced spy.

Among the Iranian people there are few who can tell the difference between spying activities and British political and diplomatic relations. Even the philosophy of friendship and brotherhood between Britain and its neighbors has amounted over the years to a series of secretive spying activities. It is because of these very methods that the people in many parts of the world say that the British are like foxes.

The clever colonialist methods of that government are far more professional than those of the Americans or their European rivals. As an example you could look at BBC radio, which broadcasts in many of the world's current languages. The British government says it is paying the huge expenses and financing the widespread facilities of that communications organization in order to help peace-loving and freedom-loving causes. It even claims that the BBC is in the service of Islam and of Muslims!

Yet when we look at the 30- to 40-year activity of the BBC with regard to Iranian affairs, we see that all through Iran's political ups and downs and social developments the BBC has used mischievous means to distort the truth and confuse and mislead public opinion and has tried to portray its government's colonialist ambitions using uncertain psychological means.

When it comes to the Roger Cooper, who is one of its government's most experienced spies in the Middle East and who by the will of God fell into the hands of our intelligence officials, the BBC has been making a fuss for several months now, saying the man is an innocent businessman! What connection is there between trade and espionage?

Now that Roger Cooper has lost face and has admitted to everything, the BBC is shouting that the interview was done under psychological pressure and that the words and sentences used were made up and fake. Then it has repeated the words of its foreign office to the effect that the IBS [as published] is something other than the British Intelligence Service, and so forth.

Why all the rush and panic? What is even more strange is that the British Foreign Office should ask why we forced Mr Cooper to confess on television. They say: If we are telling the truth, why have we not organized a proper court hearing?

The British and the managers of their peace-loving radio do not really know what a blunder they have made. What will they say and what lies will they create when sometime in the future, John Roger Cooper is put on trial--of course the court will be of an Islamic revolutionary nature--and the most sensational espionage case in the revolution's history is brought to court by the judicial authorities of the Islamic Republic?

We must wait and see how the BBC will describe the joy and excitement of the Muslim people of Iran during the revolutionary trial of this great British spy. This is only part of the story. We have to wait and see what they will do when it comes to carrying out the punishment of the accused, which will undoubtedly be very heavy. Will they continue to follow their peace-loving goals?

/9599
CSO: 4600/154

KEYHAN ON 'SPIES' AIDING IRAQI AIR STRIKES

LD151521 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1208 GMT 15 Feb 87

["From the Press Review"]

[Excerpts] The "Note of the Day" in today's KEYHAN is about "Espionage and Aerial Bombing." We draw your attention to this article. KEYHAN writes: The great and warring nation of Iran has many enemies big and small, short and tall, and near and far who are all trying in their own way and, given the situation of the day, to sting the Revolution. The most evil and fowl deed of the enemy is to drag in blood and dust innocent people asleep under their own roofs, or in other words, bomb residential and workers quarters in cities and villages. The enemy needs data and information to be able to launch bombing raids and guide its pilots to specific targets and localities so damage and losses can be increased. Such information is provided by spies and rumormongers.

The act of spying may not be known at any one time or place but, the form of espionage we are witnessing now in our country--that of aiding the enemy to bomb our cities and dragging our people in blood and dust--is unprecedented. The persons calling themselves Iranians having been borne to this land and soil and raised here, pick up the telephone and provide guidance that such place has been hit and additional strikes should be farther this way or that. Truly, may shame and hate be upon them! Why oh why? What can you call this act of guiding the enemy to bomb innocent people and their homes?

The Interior Ministry, Information Ministry, and the judicial apparatus must expose moves by the hypocrites to aid the bombing of residential quarters in our country and further, expose the tainted faces of these traitors more than before. Confessions, telephone conversations, notes, organizational memos, and whatever remnants of the splinter groups of hypocrites and any others--all of whom have been brought up by U.S. imperialism--must be disclosed to the public so that the public can become more vigilant and uproot the last vestiges of imperialist agents. According to informed sources, the bombing of our cities and workers' quarters could not be possible without these treacherous domestic elements. We must not underestimate acts of spying at this crucial juncture when the gates of Ba'thist order in Iraq are being trodden under foot by our combatants.

Espionage has many forms and at present when the principle enemies of the revolution have been deprived of many direct and organized spying acts and have lost their official means; efforts are being made to employ local traitors or even easily-fooled natives in order to satisfy their intelligence needs. For those countries in which the Islamic Revolution is considered against their interests and goals; any military, economic or cultural intelligence is valuable and important.

We must cooperate to set up an all-round and social movement to counter and neutralize any espionage activity. The Supreme Judicial Council by issuing harsher punishments for spies and those sentenced for intelligence-gathering and espionage charges; and the Information Ministry by educating the public through the media and disclosing the methods of espionage, can actually prepare the nation for this matter.

Foreign reporters, aliens, and embassies must be tightly controlled so that no information which may lead to weakening of revolutionary defense may be passed. More importantly, the cabinet can on its own stage a general mobilization and start a movement to counter rumormongers and spies by encouraging spokespersons and officials to review security methods for protecting intelligence routes and act on the same with the resources made available.

/9599
CSO: 4600/154

20 ARRESTED FOR SPYING FOR IRAQ IN NORTH

LD270022 Tehran IRNA in English 1758 GMT 26 Feb 87

[Text] Rasht, Gilan Prov., 26 Feb (IRNA)--Twenty members of the outlawed Munafiqeen Khalq Organization (MKO) were arrested in the northern cities of Astara, Talesh, and Bandar-e Anzali, announcer and local Islamic Revolution's prosecutor here Thursday.

The arrest coincided with the Iraqi regime's escalated atrocities in bombing Iranian cities, said the prosecutor, adding that the MKO members were involved in anti-state activities, including terrorism and espionage behind the fronts in collaboration with the Iraqi Ba'thist regime.

The prosecutor also said that 130 prisoners in the above mentioned cities were freed according to Imam Khomeyni's pardon, on the occasion of the eighth anniversary of the triumph of the Islamic Revolution. The sentences of another 50 convicts have been reduced he added.

Meanwhile, some 554 ordinary prisoners in Gilan Province were pardoned and released on the occasion of the anniversary of the Islamic Revolution, in line with the Imam's order.

In accordance with the imam's pardon order, the prison terms of some other inmates were reduced and they will be freed soon.

/9599
CSO: 4600/154

'TEHRAN COMMENTARY ON 'WAR OF CITIES'

NC151556 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 15 Feb 87

[Commentary prepared by the Central News Unit Research Group: "The Muslim People of Iran Answer Saddam's Crimes on the Fronts"]

[Text] The Saddam regime's attack against our cities is one of the worst calamities in the history of mankind; yet this crime is being mercilessly continued. Although international norms over the last century have condemned attacks on residents of cities, even during war, the enemy nevertheless continues his merciless crime without having any real hope that this policy will bear fruit or that by committing such crimes he will be able to save himself and escape punishment.

The 11 February march, which took place in the wake of the enemy's new series of offensives against our cities, proved to Saddam and his mentors that the weapon of the war of cities was a failure. It showed that the infidels can never destroy the Muslim Iranian's spirit of resistance by perpetrating such acts. Meanwhile, informed circles throughout the world made their own assessment of the 11 February march, as well as the dispatch of the large 100,000-strong Mahdi corps during the 10-day dawn ceremonies. According to these circles, the war of cities has not only failed to weaken the Iranian people's morale, it has also intensified their hatred for the enemy. This indicates that the criminal weapon of bombing cities has not made the Muslim people of Iran indifferent toward the Islamic Republic. Instead it has had the opposite effect of intensifying their desire to increase their active support for the Islamic Revolution and augment their presence on the warfront.

One can see that this outcome clashes with the enemy's original objective in starting this new phase of attacks on cities. However, the helpless enemy only knows how to perpetrate crimes and deploy the iron vultures offered to him by the East and the West to massacre people. Therefore, he continues his crimes by attacking cities and in this tries to punish the risen Iranian nation. He follows this policy to such an extent that he commenced his attacks on Tehran's residential areas following the massive march by the city's inhabitants on 11 February.

If we are to disappoint the enemy and persuade him from continuing his crimes against our cities, thereby ending such activities once and for all, then we

must give importance to the large-scale mobilization of popular forces for the fronts and pave the way for further major blows on the battlefield. With their multifaceted support for the combatants of Islam, the Muslim people of Iran can create the basis for bringing their major efforts into fruition faster and for putting an end to the criminal record of the rulers of Baghdad an hour sooner. The Muslim people of Iran must teach these criminals a historic lesson; namely, that they can neither gain anything by resorting to such crimes nor impose themselves on mankind. It is the duty of the heroic Muslim people of Iran to show that oppression cannot last and that a government of oppression survives as long as the wind.

If the superpowers today violate international laws, and if the United Nations and other international organizations shirk their duties and even become involved in the Iraqi Aflaqite regime's lawbreaking, it is the duty of the Muslim people of Iran to resist these violations and decisively defend themselves. The world public and those nations and organizations who boast of humanitarian and freedom-seeking intentions are responsible for the silence greeting the crimes of Iraq's Aflaqite regime. They should remember that for the last century all international laws and norms have condemned attacks on civilians, even during the war. They should also remember that through the Geneva Conventions, signed in 1949, the governments of the world committed themselves to safeguarding civilians, schools, hospitals, homes, fields, and nonmilitary factories in times of war. At the Nuremberg trials after World War II such acts were described as crimes against mankind and were punished. Some stated that the perpetrators of such acts should be tried in international, competent courts. But where is the world organization or international assembly that can prevent such inhuman crimes? What has the UN Security Council, which is hemmed in by powers that enjoy the satanic right of veto, done during the past month? What has the UN secretary general done, apart from delivering a fervent speech at the Kuwait conference which disregarded Iraq's crimes through generalization? What has the ICO done? The Red Cross has reportedly condemned the attacks on cities, but what can a mere condemnation do, and does this fulfill the humanitarian responsibilities of these organizations? Why does the West--which raises a hue and cry when the rights of one of its citizens is threatened, exclaiming that human rights have been trampled and that mankind is threatened--remain silent about these attacks, tacitly endorsing Saddam's daily crimes?

The Muslim people of Iran have awakened and fully understand the meaning of such filthy politicking by the hegemonists of East and West. Despite the fact that they have witnessed the superpowers' collusions against them and the unanswered violation of international laws by Saddam, they are resolved to use their strength and answer decisively the enemy's crimes. Their answer will come on the fronts with Iraq, and they will put an end to Saddam's sedition as soon as possible. The potent presence of the Iranian people in the 11 February march was a clear and significant manifestation of their morale and determination, which become stronger with each missile, bomb, or rocket fired by the enemy, and which double the intense will to completely annihilate Saddam and his followers.

/9599

CSO: 4600/154

IRAQI POW'S INTERVIEWED BY FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS

NC181131 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 18 Feb 87

[Commentary by the Central News Unit Research Group]

[Text] Eleven Iraqi commanders who were captured by the Islamic fighters in the victorious Karbala'-5 operation have attended a radio-television news conference with foreign correspondents. The prisoners, among whom are three brigade commanders, spoke first about how they were captured and how the forces under their command were destroyed.

One of the correspondents asked Brigadier General Jamil Ahmad Husayn al-Bayyati, commander of the 506th brigade, the following question: How could you be defeated this way, given the quantity of war materiel at your disposal? The brigadier general answered: The most important elements in a war are the motivation, morale, and faith of those who are fighting; as the Iraqi Armed Forces' personnel have no faith in this war and believe it to be a mistake committed by the Iraqi leaders. Their successive defeats are assured. He added: With the recent victories scored by the combatants of Islam in the Shalamcheh operation, which resulted in great damage to the Iraqi Army, the Iraqi forces had no alternative but to surrender.

One sees from the remarks made by the POW's that the Iraqi forces were taken completely by surprise in the Karbala'-5 operation. Most of the POW's said that they entered the Shalamcheh region without any explanation or previous acquaintance with the area, which simply increased their vulnerability.

Colonel 'Umar Sharif Sa'id, commander of the 101st brigade, referred to this: I was ordered to advance toward Du'ayji at a time when the men under my control were all fresh recruits who had no acquaintance with the area. The command of the 506th brigade agreed: The brigade under my command was ordered to enter the area of Du'ayji with any explanation, in order to support the 28th Brigade.

At the end, one of the correspondents put this question to the Iraqi commanders who participated in the news conference: Are there any among you who wish to fight against Saddam? Everyone raised their hands in response, and Col 'Umar Sharif Sa'id told the correspondents: You see that we all raised our hands. We await orders from the great leader of the Islamic

Revolution be permitted to annihilate the enemy of mankind who has been ruling Iraq for 18 years.

The Islamic Republic's good treatment of POW's after their capture made these people change their positions, and they now want to fight the Iraqi regime. This is because the Islamic Republic, acting on the basis of the lofty teachings of Islam, believes that proper attention should be given to all POW's as an Islamic and humanitarian duty, and therefore extends them all possible facilities for welfare, education and exercise. Major Jamal Jabbar 'Ali Karim referred to this in response to a German correspondent: The necessary facilities for our welfare, including food, baths, and television, have been placed at our disposal. But even more important than this was the humanitarian and Islamic treatment we received from the combatants of Islam when we were captured. Lieutenant Colonel Walid 'Alwan Hamadi said the following to the same correspondent: No ideological pressure is brought to bear on Iraqi POW's here, not even on Christians.

In sharp contrast, the Iraqi regime treats Iranian POW's harshly and inhumanly. This is why the Islamic Republic has repeatedly called on international organizations, especially the UN secretary general and the world Red Cross organization, to investigate the status of Iranian POW's in Iraqi prisons. Last year, Iran's permanent representative to the United Nations sent a letter to the UN secretary general and distributed it among the UN members. In this letter, the international organizations were called upon to work to determine the fate of thousands of Iranians who are missing in action. The letter also referred to a report by the world Red Cross organization on the violation of the 1949 Geneva convention in the treatment of POW's in Iraq.

In response, representatives from the world Red Cross organization visited both Iran and Iraq. After inspecting the two countries, the world Red Cross organization published a report on the Iraqi regime's refusal to cooperate in a full inspection of all Iraqi prisons. This proved that secret prisons exist in Iraq in which mental and physical torture is inflicted. Moreover, civilians imprisoned by the Iraqi regime who were later released through the efforts of responsible officials have strongly confirmed that such mental and physical torture is practiced in Iraqi prisons.

/9599
CSO: 4600/154

IRAQI PILOT CAPTURED IN GACHSARAN INTERVIEWED

NC160759 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 16 Feb 87

[Text] The pilot of an Iraqi aircraft downed in Gachsaran area, in an interview with our correspondent, spoke about the Iraqi regime's fear and terror from the victories scored by the combatants of Islam on the war fronts, as well as on the oppression and suppression ruling Iraq. Our correspondent in Gachsaran has dispatched the following report:

[Begin recording] The Iraqi pilot captured by the forces of Islam yesterday when his fighter was downed in Gachsaran area was interviewed by the Yasuj Central News Unit correspondent. He revealed new aspects of the Iraqi Army's weaknesses vis-a-vis the combatants of Islam.

The pilot introduced himself as 26-year-old First Lieutenant ('Abd al-Rahman al-Bayadi) from Baghdad. Referring to the Iraqi Army's morale after the Karbala-5 operation, he said: Saddam always claimed that Iran's next attack would be its last. He said that Iran does not have any strength left to carry out operations. However, we noticed that the Majnun Island operations were very powerful, that the Al-Faw offensive was even more so, and that the recent attack in Shalamcheh was even more powerful and more terrifying than all other Iranian operations. He added: Iran's massive forces attacked Iraqi positions in Shalamcheh, and the Iraqi Army was unable to resist this (?offensive) because of its weak morale. Therefore, most soldiers fled.

The Iraqi pilot said that he was unaware of the 11 February march and of the people's announcement that they were ready to continue the war until the overthrow of Saddam and Iraq's [word indistinct]. He expressed regret at having participated in the attacks on Qom and Khomeyn. He stated that he was unaware of the fact that the holy shrine of Ma'sumah was situated in Qom and noted that this operation took place only because of the fear to refuse to obey commanders' orders. Referring to the rule of terror and pressure in Iraq, he said: The Iraqi regime forces the military to carry out orders. For example, in the recent plan to attack cities, commanders sent the aircraft on group missions to prevent pilot disobedience and so one pilot could observe the behavior of the others. He noted that there are many such cases.

First Lieutenant ('Abd al-Rahman al-Bayadi) also stated that the successive downing of aircraft has terrified the Iraqi commanders and pilots. He added: The Iraqi regime started this plan to weaken the morale of the Iranian people, but speaking as a person who participated in these attacks, I believe that this plan cannot be effective for its initiators because of the weak morale among the Iraqi military personnel. In fact, the Iraqi pilots are forced and threatened to bomb defenseless people.

In conclusion, he addressed a message to the Iraqi Army as follows: What I have to say to the Iraqi Armed Forces personnel is to surrender to the forces of Islam as soon as possible because there is no other alternative. Iran's next attack will undoubtedly be more powerful than the previous one.

It should be noted that the name of the captured pilot in Gachsaran was wrongly reported as (Hamid Khalid Zakir), who was the pilot of the aircraft downed in Izeh.

Correspondent of Yasuj Central News Unit reporting from Gashsaran. [end recording]

/9599

CSO: 4600/154

CAPTURED IRAQI PILOTS VISIT BOMBED SITES IN QOM

LD221224 Tehran IRNA in English 0930 GMT 22 Feb 87

[Text] Qom, 22 Feb (IRNA)--A group of Iraqi pilots taken prisoner recently during the Karbala-5 operations and other attacks on Iranian civilian areas were conducted on a tour of the bombed residential sites in Qom Saturday, to witness their deadly deeds.

The captured Iraqi pilots inspected a hospital, a mosque, and residential areas of the holy city of Qom raided by the Baghdad regime's warplanes. The pilots were full of remorse on seeing the devastated sites.

The Muslim people of Qom informed of the pilots' presence in the city displayed remarkably high Islamic and humanitarian behaviour and chanted slogans against the United States, the Soviet Union, and Saddam Husayn (Iraqi president).

The people announced their grim determination to continue their defensive war against Iraqi aggression till the criminal Baghdad regime is toppled.

Two of the Iraqi pilots told IRNA that the main objective of the Iraqi regime in attacking Iranian residential quarters was to pressure the Iranian people and government to accept "an imposed peace."

One of the Iraqi pilots who was deeply impressed at the whole scene said that he had witnessed a magnanimous behaviour by the people who had lost their relatives in the Iraqi bombing. "I am amazed by the Iranian nation's ardent faith in Islam, revolution and the leadership of Imam Khomeyni," said the shame-faced pilot.

On the bombing of the holy city of Qom by the Baghdad regime, the Iraqi pilot said the ungodly act was perpetrated by Saddam due to his total ignorance to Almighty Allah and the Muslims' religious sanctities.

The Iraqi pilots visited "Zaynabiya" and "Tharallah" [names as received] schools in Miyaneh, east Azarbaijan Province on Friday, where 68 innocent girl students were martyred and scores of others injured in the savage Iraqi attacks on the schools on February 1st.

/9599

CSO: 4600/154

COMMENTARY ON 'RESOLVE' TO DEFEAT AIR ATTACKS

NC211221 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 21 Feb 87

[Commentary prepared by the Central News Unit Research Group, entitled "The Strong Resolve of the Muslim People to Neutralize the Plot of Attacks on Cities"]

[Excerpts] The Islamic Revolution Guards' corps mobilization issued a statement declaring a 10-day period of training and general mobilization to build air raid shelters beginning on Monday [16 February]. In view of the dimension of the crimes of Saddam's regime in attacking cities and residential and civilian areas, building strong and suitable shelters is a must.

Since the first days of the war, Iraq's Aflaqite regime has destroyed more than 10 important cities and thousands of adjacent villages, rendering hundreds of thousands of innocent women, children, and men homeless. These criminal acts were not condemned by any nation or international organization, but were even supported by the arrogant powers and some reactionary Arab states. Meanwhile, the Muslim people of Iran--who pinned no hopes on these useless organizations--rose to resist the Iraq regime and recorded great epics in the history of the world. The unflinching support given Iraq by the superpowers and its regional mentors strengthened resistance to this plot.

Since the conquest of Khorramshahr the Iraqi regime has suffered marked defeats, especially during the past 2 years of the war. The liberation of the strategic areas of Al-Faw and east of Basra left the Iraqi regime no alternative but to admit its successive defeats. Therefore, lacking the possibility of a direct confrontation with the combatants of Islam on the fronts, the Iraqi regime resorted to the monstrous act of attacking cities. The Iraqi regime believed mistakenly that by attacking residential and civilian areas it could weaken the strong resolve of Iran's Muslim people. But the bombardments served only to raise the people's wrath and their will to avenge the blood of dear ones innocently martyred. The massive and magnificent demonstrations of 11 February, the great presence of members of the Prophet Muhammad and Al-Mahdi Corps over the past 2 months, the victorious Karbala' operations in the south, and the liberation of strategic areas east of Basra are clear proof that the combatants of Islam will avenge the blood of their innocent dear ones on the fronts with persistent operations.

What is clear now is the Muslim nation's determination to foil plots hatched in various forms since the beginning of the Islamic Revolution. The Iraqi regime should have learned from the past, because last year, during the Jerusalem Day march, Iran's Muslim people defeated, with their massive participation, the psychological war of attacks on the cities. In addition, on 11 February this year, in the massive marches in Tehran and other parts of the country, the participants declared to the world, with their fists clenched, the futility of the Iraqi regime's bombing of residential areas. They were proof of the defeat of the enemy's effort in the new phase of attacks on cities.

Undoubtedly the Muslim people's efforts to build shelters will be coupled with massive presence at the fronts. It is the people's war and confrontation of the world's infidels and their puppet Saddam in the war theaters that will determine the outcome of the conflict. Thus, the combatants of Islam are ever ready to inflict--on the orders of their leaders--the major and fateful blow to the Iraqi regime.

/9599
CSO: 4600/154

BRIEFS

SOVIET AGENT ALLEGED--Dr Mohammad Makri, Iran's former ambassador to Moscow, will soon appear on the Iranian television screen and confess to being an agent of the Soviets and the KGB. AL-DUSTUR has learned from an informed Iranian source that Rafsanjani wants to sacrifice Dr Makri, who was a member of the National Front, so that the former may appear to Washington to be in command of the situation and, at the same time, foil Iranian President Khamenei's endeavor to move closer to Moscow. This endeavor made a long stride last week when Velayati, Iran's minister of foreign affairs, who is considered a member of Khamenei's wing, signed a cooperation treaty with a Soviet delegation visiting Tehran. [Text] [London AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 22 Dec 86 p 3] 8494/9190

KHOMEINI'S HEALTH--Iranian Prime Minister Mir Hosein Musavi apologized to Sudanese Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi for not being able to arrange a meeting between al-Mahdi and Khomeyni during the former's visit to Tehran. Musavi justified his apology by saying that Khomeyni refuses to receive any foreign official. But Iranian sources pointed out to AL-DUSTUR that the real reason is Khomeyni's deteriorating health condition. [Text] [London AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 22 Dec 86 p 3] 8494/9190

MEETING WITH NICARAGUAN ENVOY--Nicaragua's Ambassador in Tehran Gonzalo Murillo conferred with head of the Majlis (parliament) Foreign Policy Commission Ahmad Azizi, here Sunday. Views were exchanged at the meeting on expansion of bilateral relations. The Nicaraguan envoy presented Azizi a copy of the text of his country's constitutional law. [Text] [Tehran IRNA in English 1544 GMT 15 Feb 87] /9599

MOJAHE DIN-E KHALQ MEMBERS ARRESTED--Tehran, 22 Feb (IRNA)--Four members of the counterrevolutionary monafeqin [hypocrites--reference to Mojahedin] Khalq Organisation (MKO) have been arrested while transmitting signals to Iraqi radar directing its warplanes attacks on civilian targets in Iran, said the Persian daily "KEYHAN" here Sunday. The daily said several wireless sets as well as homing devices, used to direct Iraqi warplanes and surface-to-surface missiles to their targets, were seized from the MKO members in Bakhtaran. Three of these four MKO members were arrested while transmitting radar signals for use by Iraqi warplanes to their bases in Iraq from a hill overlooking the Jomhuri Islami Square in the city of Bakhtaran. The fourth was captured in Sahneh District of Bakhtaran while transmitting radar signals, KEYHAN said. [Text] [Tehran IRNA in English 1419 GMT 17 Feb 87] /9599

BRIEFS

ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK LOAN--The Asian Development Bank has agreed to provide loan assistance of \$41 million for road improvement project and the second aquaculture development project in Nepal. Two separate agreements to this effect were signed today in Manila, according to a press release of the Ministry of Finance. [Excerpt] [Katmandu External Service in English 1415 GMT 18 Feb 87 BK] /12624

CSO: 4600/148

OPPOSITION PARTY LEADER CRITICIZES U.S., AFGHAN POLICY

BK181024 Karachi DAWN in English 5 Feb 87 p 3

[Text] Sheikhupura, 4 Feb--Khan Abdul Wali Khan has alleged the policies of the present rulers have made the country subservient to the United States interests.

He was addressing a meeting of the District Bar Association here.

The ANP [Awami National Party] chief claimed that he was in possession of documents to prove that America would not allow any political party to come to power which did not guarantee the United States interests.

The Americans think that in case of war with the Soviet Union, Pakistan can be used as a base to launch a strike against the USSR," he said.

"If the Soviet Union hits back, Pakistan will become the target and the U.S. will not be involved," he added.

He alleged that the Americans were instrumental in getting East Pakistan separated from West Pakistan. Bengalis, he said, were politically advanced and they wanted the sovereignty of the people and knew how to struggle for their rights.

"They hated 'American Imperialism' and that was why the Americans wanted to get rid of them," he explained.

He maintained that the U.S. does not want a settlement of the Afghan issue. He alleged that Pakistan is, therefore, taking no initiative to solve this problem and added that the Pakistan Government is not allowing the Afghan refugees to return to their country, and added "If you destabilize Afghanistan it would lead to the destabilization of Pakistan".

Before the Afghanistan problem, he said, there was no mention of Islam in the speeches of Gen Ziaul Haq.

He regretted that after 40 years of independence "we are still demanding the restoration of democracy", he claimed that in the British days "we had an elected government, political parties and had elections".

He said had elections been held in the country, from time to time, and the process of the accountability continued, political life could have purified.

He said it was a happy augury that progressive political parties which were against 'American Imperialism' had merged into ANP.

"We want the sovereignty of the people and their participation in the affairs of the country. To eradicate poverty, we want a fair share in distribution of wealth of the country to every person," Mr Wali Khan emphasized.

Regarding the concentration of Indian troops, he said the Indian government took into confidence the Opposition parties on this issue but our government has not taken the Opposition into confidence on the border situation.

"If the situation is critical then why did President Ziaul Haq go out of the country, and why did he request the Indian government for a visa to witness the cricket match in a hostile country? And why has the Indian instrumentalist Bismillah Khan arrived in this country?" he asked.

Regarding the Sohrab Goth operation [in Karachi], he said not a single person in the list of the 22 persons involved in the narcotics trade presented to the National Assembly is an inhabitant of that area.

/12624
CSO: 4600/146

BHUTTO CHARGES ZIA 'MISHANDED RELATIONS' WITH INDIA

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 15 Feb 87 p 1

[Article by Kuldip Nayyar]

[Text]

NEW DELHI, Feb. 14: Miss Benazir Bhutto has said that General Ziaul Haq has "mishandled relations" with India and has "opened another front" when the Pakistan forces are already facing the Soviet Union in the north.

In an interview to me in Karachi a few days ago, she said it was Gen. Zia who had aggravated the situation to divert the people's attention from "the real problems" of Pakistan and that it was he who "seeks and builds" tension to sustain himself in power. He lost the Siachen Glacier and one did not know what "humiliation" he would bring to Pakistan in the days to come, she said.

Asked if she would favour a no-war pact with India, Miss Bhutto said, 'No'. Her argument was that the Simla Agreement, which her father, Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, signed with Mrs Indira Gandhi in 1972, was in essence a no-war pact. Nothing more was required.

The interview was held at 70, Clifton, a lonely bungalow outside which hangs a name plate with the words 'Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, Bar-at-law, embossed in brass. Eight months ago when I met her at Okara, 80 km from Lahore, I found her harried and edgy. She had then just taken over the Pakistan People's Party (PPP) and faced the problems of its reorganisation. This time she was relaxed as if she had come to terms with herself, the party and the situation she faced. She still attracts crowds of thousands, the only leader in Pakistan to do so, but she gave me the impression that she will not wait till

1990", the year when the "elections" are due.

"I should have pushed things in Autumn", Miss Bhutto recalled. "Indeed, top politicians and journalists told me in Pakistan that had I asked Gen Zia to negotiate with me when I received ovation from lakhs of people in Lahore and Rawalpindi after my arrival from abroad, I would have wrested power from his hands. "I did say in Lahore at that time that if we wanted we could have captured power", was her comment. "We are against violence", she added.

"At least 120,000 people courted arrest and many faced police brutalities on August 14, 1986, when I gave the call. Some were even butchered. Still the impression sought to be created is that the stir was a failure. Our problem is that we are struggling for a peaceful transfer of power," she said. She has no doubt that Gen. Zia would "go very soon". Asked about reasons of her optimism, she said: "I am a student of history. I have known dictators ultimately quitting. They get buried under their own weight. Situations develop that way".

My repeated queries to her whether she would associate or seek the help of the armed forces to come to power, elicited a curt and categorical reply: "The armed forces have only their constitutional role to play and that is to defend the country". When I told her that I had the Turkish pattern in mind, she said she wanted good relations with Turkey but would accept no role of the armed forces in politics.

One thing I noticed about Miss Bhutto—and others confirmed it—was that she tended to separate Gen. Zia from the military. She would attribute Pakistan's troubles to him but not blame the armed forces or in any way criti-

cise them.

A few days before I met her 20 bullets had been shot at her jeep in which she was to travel to Larkana but changed her mind at the last minute. Three of her servants travelling in the jeep were kidnapped. She said that "Gen. Zia was wanting to kill me" and there had been some attempts on her life earlier also. The kidnappers, she said, informed her servants that "they were Gen. Zia's men".

Miss Bhutto's perception about the creation of Bangladesh is quite novel. She said that Bangladesh was a result of India's peace and friendship treaty with the Soviet Union. When I asked her whether she really believed it, she said: "I know you will not agree with me but this is our understanding".

Commenting on the Soviet peace offer on Afghanistan, Miss Bhutto said that the mere withdrawal of troops was not adequate. "Conditions must be created which would give confidence to the three million refugees in Pakistan to return to their homes. Until that happens the peace offer has no meaning". Afghanistan is the only subject on which I found little difference between her and Gen Zia's government.

/12828
CSO: 4600/155

COMMENTARY VIEWS TROOP WITHDRAWAL

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 14 Feb 87 pp 1, 8

[Article by Abbas Rashid]

[Text]

LAHORE, Feb. 13: As a result of negotiations between India and Pakistan held from January 31 to Feb. 4, both sides agreed to withdraw their troops massed on the border, as a first step to defuse tension between the two countries that had been growing since last year.

This process of escalation had registered a marked rise in November as India's military exercise "Brass Tacks" got under way in the Rajasthan sector, uncomfortably close to Pakistan's turbulent province of Sind. The exercises are a massive affair costing India close to a quarter of a billion dollars and involving nearly 200,000 soldiers and two armoured divisions equipped with 1400 tanks, including the advanced T-72s. The scale is large not only by India's standards. There are few recent examples of an exercise of such magnitude being held individually, by any country, including the major powers.

The Indians, during the course of the recent negotiations with Pakistan, have claimed that there was really nothing particularly provocative about these exercises as similar large scale manoeuvres had been held in this sector as recently as 1983 and hence Pakistan's reaction and alarm was less than justified.

However, there appear to be some significant differences between the exercises held then and those that are being held in 1986-87. Apart from the greater numbers involved this time, there is also a higher degree of "battle readiness" that is evident. Unlike last time the headquarters of the concerned regional command

has been shifted to the Rajasthan "theatre" itself. Further, a significantly higher proportion of the ammunition being carried by the contending corps is "live" rather than exercise ammunition. And, not least, the Director General Military Operations for India failed for some reason to inform his Pakistani counterpart about the nature, scope and duration of the exercise, a procedure that is otherwise a matter of routine agreed upon by the two countries.

In November, when Prime Minister Junejo was in Bangalore for the SAARC summit, he had apparently been assured by the Indian Prime Minister that the exercises would be scaled down. When this did not happen, Pakistan decided to continue its own winter military exercises which would otherwise have ended by December, and brought up additional forces, including an armoured division, in the Ravi - Chanab sector.

On January 23, in response to what an Indian spokesman referred to as "continued mobilisation of Pakistan troops all along the Western Border", India put its army and airforce on "Red Alert" and the Navy was formally alerted.

Pakistan's Ambassador had been summoned to the Indian Ministry of External Affairs earlier on in the day and the threat was apparently conveyed to him in no uncertain terms that India would retaliate unless the Pakistani forces withdrew. However, India proceeded to seal the borders and declare a Red Alert without waiting for Pakistan's response.

Upon learning of this development, Prime Minister Junjo, among other things, held a detailed discussion with the top brass of the Pakistan Army which denied having sent any troops into offensive positions against India.

Subsequently Mr. Junejo telephoned Rajiv Gandhi who eventually called back and that led to what has been called in sections of the Indian Press as Rajiv Gandhi's "initiative" of inviting a delegation from Pakistan to come to New Delhi to explore ways and means for defusing the mounting tension.

Official circles in Pakistan have played up the agreement negotiated by Pakistan as a major step towards resolving the immediate crisis. What has been negotiated, however, is the withdrawal of troops and armour in an area where India is militarily vulnerable, while leaving the status quo intact in the Rajasthan sector where the most realistic of "dry runs" (for a possible invasion scenario) is being conducted by the Indian forces. In other words, Pakistan has acceded to the Indian ultimatum of January 23 and withdrawn its forces in the sector indicated, after the appropriate moves and noises culminating in "the minutes of consultation" between the Foreign Secretaries of India and Pakistan.

The document, otherwise leaves the status quo untouched. There is no decision for withdrawal of Indian forces in the Rajasthan sector. In fact the Indian Foreign Secretary, A. S. Gonsalves, soon after the agreement had been concluded,

was at pains to clarify that it had nothing whatever to do with Pakistan's proposed 'No War Pact' and was only aimed at a specific situation. And, of course, the agreement speaks for itself in terms of which of the contending parties is presently left with tactical advantage.

All this is not to say that India will be unwilling to conclude an agreement on withdrawal of forces from the other sectors later in the month when the Indian delegation arrives in Islamabad for further negotiations. It is, however, to suggest that exercise "Brass Tacks" appears to have had political objectives not only because of the factors listed earlier but also because the sector-by-sector approach, obviously adopted on India's insistence, can only be inferred as being an arrangement that forces Pakistan to negotiate from a position of weakness (on the ground) in the forthcoming round of "consultations". Otherwise for a mere "exercise" which, in any case is supposed to end next month, such an elaborate negotiating procedure does not make much sense.

A number of theories with regard to India's real motives are circulating in official and political circles in Pakistan. Among these is the theory of indirect pressure that India has been directed by the Soviet Union to exert on Pakistan, short of going to war, in order to make it more amenable to an agreement at Geneva regarding the Afghanistan

Another scenario puts the move in the context of the US congressional hearings on the US aid package to Pakistan of dollars 4.02 billion, which are due to begin towards the end of February. It is suggested that by provoking Pakistan into an aggressive configuration of its forces, India got the excuse to put its forces on Red Alert, thereby portraying Pakistan in the role of aggressor.

Another possibility is that India, despite her own problems in the Punjab (for which it holds Pakistan responsible) sees the present juncture, with the pressure on the Pakistani state as well as society assuming critical proportions, as for instance on the nuclear issue or Kashmir. Certainly the Indian army's "full-time" and

ambitious Chief of Staff, Gen; Krishnawami Sunderji, would find it difficult not to push for pressing home the advantage against an adversary under considerable pressure on the external as well as the home front.

The least plausible, of course, is the "misperception" theory which explains the events leading up to the Red Alert and the Indian ultimatum as a move and counter-move spiral attended by a failure of communication and the consequent inability of both sides to understand the nature of each other's intentions. For one thing, contacts between the two governments have continued at the highest levels, including the Prime Ministerial one. Further, the intelligence networks on both sides, in addition to information received from "friendly" sources abroad, could hardly have provided room for confusion, unless of course, such confusion was deliberately sought. It needs to be kept in mind that there is a mechanism also at the purely military level that could have been used by India had the desire been there, to inform Pakistan about its manoeuvres, i.e., the channel between the Directors General Military Operations of the two countries.

So whatever lack of intention or inaccuracy of perception was evident during the proceedings, these cannot, by and large, be credited to India.

As for Pakistan's response, again there are some intriguing aspects. Why did Pakistan choose not to make an issue of the Indian moves before the nation in order to mobilise it along with the Army which was brought up as a defensive measure. Meanwhile President Ziaul Haq who happens, at the same time, to be the Chief of Staff of the Pakistan Army, took the somewhat surprising decision to carry on with his programme and attend the OIC meeting in Kuwait. This was not an emergency meeting nor was the OIC expected to achieve a major breakthrough. For General Ziaul Haq then to leave the country at such a time could only mean one of two things. He left knowing that war with India was distinct possibility, in which case not only does the matter of his holding on to the post of Chief of Army Staff call for urgent review but so also his order of priorities.

On the other hand if he knew for certain that there was no probability of war and hence decided in favour of OIC, he could have saved a lot of people, including Prime Minister Junejo, some very anxious moments by sharing his information.

Right or wrong, the Prime Minister, at least, appears to have assumed that India meant business.

He held meetings with the Cabinet Defence Committee as well as with PML MNAs and Senators, called Rajiv who was otherwise engaged, waited for him to call back and finally, accepted the Indian demand that the talks be held in India at the Secretary level.

Pakistan's Foreign Secretary Abdul Sattar, in turn, accepted the sector-by-sector approach, making the best of a difficult situation. In fairness, he could hardly have been expected to win for Pakistan across the negotiating table what has been lost elsewhere. Nor, one may add, can it be regained by President Ziaul Haq's foray into what has been termed as "cricket diplomacy". While Zia has been formally invited (after he expressed an interest in going) to watch the Test match in India by the Indian Cricket Control Board, it would be naive to suggest that the visit has no political implications. In the last two years or so this will be President Ziaul Haq's third visit to India while Prime Minister Junejo has also been to Bangalore as recently as last November.

Throughout this period no Indian head of state or government has visited Pakistan. As a matter of fact India's last Foreign Secretary, Mr. Venkateswaran, was fired by Rajiv Gandhi for announcing that he will be visiting Pakistan later this year as head of SAARC. Given this background and given the present context, President Zia's proposed visit smacks of "sub-servient rather than "cricket" diplomacy.

What would be far more appropriate and useful is for President Zia to make a concerted effort to take the political parties and people of Pakistan into confidence and to take immediate steps to remove the difference that make us so vulnerable to external pressure and encourage the kind of initiative that India has taken

MINISTER TALKS ABOUT WHEAT SUBSIDY, OTHER MATTERS

Lahore THE PAKISTAN TIMES (Commerce Supplement) in English 19 Feb 87 p 1

[Text]

LAHORE, Feb. 18: The Federal Minister for Food, Agriculture and Co-operatives, Mir Ibrahim Baluch, said here today that the government would spend Rs. 200 crore as subsidy for the supply of atta in wheat deficit areas of the country despite derationing of atta at government depots from April 15.

In an interview with APP here, he said that the ban on inter-provincial movement of wheat would be lifted and the private sector dealers would be free to compete with public sector.

He said that the government would save an amount of Rs. 100 crore which it was deprived of by the collusion of atta dealers and Government agencies and the benefit did not reach the public in toto.

He clarified that with the implementation of new derationing policy good quality atta would be available at the market price of Rs. 2.35 per kilogram, about 60 paisa cheaper than the present rate

of a quality atta. He said the government aim was to facilitate people in one of the most basic requirements in food and check irregularities.

Mir Ibrahim Baluch said it was wrong to assume that the Government had totally left atta supply to the private sector. As a measure to counter the trend of hoarding, the government would procure wheat this year also, he said.

He hoped that the crop this year would exceed the target of 100 crore tons and added that the date of April 15 for the implementation of derationing policy was ancillary to the procurement of fresh wheat stocks.

About the deficiency of fertilisers, the Minister said that the government would continue the ban on import of fertilisers. He said the local production units had, however, been directed to expand their mills for increased production. He said the Government was also planning installation of another fertiliser unit but its location had not been finalised yet.

Mir Ibrahim Baluch said that he would soon tour the Punjab, Sind and other areas in order to discuss various proposals with provincial governments for starting a crash programme of achieving autarky in edible oil and dairy industry.

He said under the five point programme of the Prime Minister, the Government intended to achieve self sufficiency in these fields by 1990.

About the growth of cotton production in the country, the Minister said that there should be a planned sowing of the crop. He said the farmer suffered because of surplus growth of cotton and they had to sell it at cheaper rates. He said the government was planning to restrict areas for cotton growth to overcome this problem.

About the tax on agriculture income, he said he was personally against it as the farmers were already paying in the shape of indirect taxation.

/9317
CSO: 4600/152

BUREAUCRACY SAID EMBEZZLING 80 BILLION RUPEES EVERY YEAR

Lahore THE PAKISTAN TIMES (Commerce Supplement) in English 18 Feb 87 p IV

[Text] LAHORE, Feb. 17: Retired Air Marshal Asghar Khan, President, Tehrik-i-Istiqbal has deplored that there had been no accountability of the bureaucracy which had been peculating Rs. 80 billion annually.

He was addressing a meeting today at Alnoor Colony, Lahore Cantonment, organised by the Christian community.

Lashing out at the corrupt officers and lamenting the malpractices perpetrated by various organisations, the T.I. Chief said that Rs. 40 billion were pilfered by members of bureaucracy in the form of commission and Rs. 20 billion by Income Tax authorities in the shape of illegal gratification.

According to him, it is an irony of fact that the Government had remitted the loans to the tune of Rs. 15 billion. Besides this, bank managers and nationalised industries managements have also played havoc with Government funds.

Finding faults in the measures, taken by the Martial Law regime and the present Government, Air Marshal Asghar Khan criticised President Zia and took exception to the tabling of Shariat Bill in the Senate. He also charged the Government with sowing seeds of discord among various ethnic groups in pursuance of its policy "Divide and rule".

Air Marshal Asghar Khan dilated upon various issues of national importance including debacle of East Pakistan, concentration of troops on the

borders and the demand for holding elections on party basis under the 1973 Constitution and said that his party would think of adopting ways and means to cooperate with other political parties which stood for the revival of democracy and demanded change in the Government.

Asserting that Tehrik-i-Istiqbal would not come into power through back-door, Air Marshal Asghar Khan said although the PPP had been throwing stones on us, we would not pay in the same coin because they too like us are struggling for the cause of democracy. He said that his party would change the scenario of the body-politic of the country if the people elected the T.I. representatives with an overwhelming majority in the manner they had once elected the PPP.

According to T.I. Chief, his party did not favour interference in the religious matters. He also supported the cause of denationalisation of Church schools but added that the denationalised institutions would have to safeguard the rights of the teachers.

The meeting was addressed by Mr. Pitras Feles and Mr. Yousaf Gill of Masih League. They alleged that Christian community was being denied their rights and demanded the return of educational institutions earlier run by the Christian community.

/12828

CSO: 4600/156

REPORTAGE ON POLICE FIRING IN BALUCHISTAN

Six Killed

BK220849 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 22 Feb 87

[Text] In Pakistan, six persons were killed in police firing in Jiwani, a coastal town in Baluchistan, near the Pakistan-Iran border yesterday. Police opened fire on a procession of residents who were protesting against the irregular supply of power. A general strike is being observed in the area to protest the indiscriminate police firing.

Meanwhile, violent demonstrations in Peshawar continued for the 4th day today. The rioters, most of them students, attacked government buildings and set vehicles on fire. The authorities have closed universities and colleges and banned people from carrying weapons. The riots followed a bomb blast on Thursday.

Press Note Issued

BK240241 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 24 Feb 87

[Text] A press note issued by the Karachi South District magistrate says that some students belonging to a political group yesterday erected barricades in some lanes of Liari to protest against the incidents which took place in Jiwani. Certain violent elements threw stones at vehicles and fired at the policemen who had to use tear gas to disperse the unruly mob. Some policemen and five other people received minor injuries. Many persons have been arrested.

/12624
CSO: 4600/147

SEPARATIST SENTIMENT FOSTERED BY SINDHI HINDUS DENOUNCED

Islamabad HURMAT in Urdu 18-31 Dec pp 59-63

[Nawaz Khilji column "Points To Ponder"]

[Excerpts] For some years anti-Islamic and anti-state literature has been distributed in Sind at a great rate in accordance with a master plan. It is estimated that books containing material to incite Sindhi militancy are being published and brought onto the market for sale at the rate of one book every day. Such books are full of hatred against Islam, hatred against Pakistan, hatred against Punjab, and hatred against Allama Iqbal (Poet Laureate of the East); in short, these books contain everything that is designed to damage the integrity of Islam and Pakistan as much as possible. These books portray Raja Dahr as a nationalist hero and Mohammad Bin Qasim as a dacoit. Raja Dahr's imaginary picture is also published. These books are not published in a foreign country, in India, but right here in the Sindhi press, and their authors are Pakistanis. Books containing less than 100 pages cost as much as 10-15 rupees. They are sold at any bookstall without fear. A worker or a leader of the Jiye Sind or any group with such Sindhi nationalist ideologies gets such books published for a nominal sum of money. The Hindu population of Sind buy more than half of these books and discard them; some of the remaining books are sold in stalls. These books are very expensive, so the publisher gets 10,000-15,000 rupees without any exertion. Even in small towns and villages such as Sukrand, Qazi Ahmed and Kundiyaro, publishers have surfaced who have started publishing books containing anti-Pakistan material, thereby creating a source of income for themselves and providing the author with some compensation as well. The sole condition is that whether or not the literature is effective, the material published must be against Islam and Pakistan, because the publishers know very well that if 5,000 books are published, then 4,500 of them will be bought by one Hindu customer alone, and if the remaining 500 are not sold in the whole of Sind the publishers will not lose anything. In contrast, the number of Sindhi books published annually in support of Pakistan and Islam does not exceed 12 at most.

If even after reading the books a youth does not understand something or finds that the author has made false statements, then the publishing group will provide proof in support of the author as if it were his own

publication. The line of action of Hindu officials holding high-level administrative posts can well be seen from an incident that took place in the presence of this writer. Mr Ilahi Bakhsh Dahri, a well-known young political landlord of Nawab Shah, returned home from London the other day. Mr Dahri, frustrated with domestic politics, wants to settle permanently in London. His wife and children, who live in London, invited some six or seven friends for lunch on the occasion of his return home. The guests included administrative officials on the district level, a magistrate who is a zealous Hindu called Vishnu, who is a strict vegetarian, a young village headman, a deputy superintendent of police and an advocate. I was also invited on this special occasion. Due to my flawless Sindhi accent I was taken for a Jiye Sind worker. The magistrate appeared to be restless because no one was talking on a subject that interested him, so he successfully maneuvered the conversation to the subject of Sindhi Hindus living in Sind. He said that they still love Muslims, whereas the "Mohajirs" (refugees from India) and Punjabi Muslims even in London hate Sindhi Muslims. But Mr Dahri foiled the magistrate's efforts, saying that in London the people are so busy that no one has time to think about love and hate. After dinner, the young village headman, who worked directly under the magistrate, unfortunately started praising the late Field Marshal Ayub Khan, saying that he was a greater leader than Indira Gandhi. This outraged the Hindu magistrate, who exerted every effort to prove that President Ayub was the number one enemy of Sind; finally, he said that the only salvation for Sindhi Muslims was complete independence, adding quietly that the Sindhi Muslims were napping while the Sindhi Hindus in India were engaged in trying to liberate Sind. Addressing the young village headman, the magistrate said that if he did not change his way of thinking it was unclear how Sind could become independent and be freed of Mohajirs and Punjabis. The magistrate then asked the young man to see him the following day and said he would give him some books from which he would find out for himself how much harm he was causing himself by considering non-Sindhis as his Muslim brothers. If you were to look into the recent rioting in Hyderabad and Karachi, you will find out for yourself that the Hindu lobby in Sind and the nationalist forces had started erecting walls of hatred, distrust and prejudice between the various non-Sindhi groups living in Sind in order to foment bloody conflicts among them as far back as 15 years ago. During Mumtaz Ali Bhutto's premiership, extremist nationalist groups started language riots throughout Sind. At the time Mumtaz Bhutto's administration police showed partiality and supported the Sindhi nationalists. All non-Sindhis living in Sind collected together under the Mohajir-Punjabi-Pathan United Front formed by the late Nawab Muzaffar and successfully defended their lives and property as patriotic Pakistanis and true Muslims during the language riots. The violence started by fanatics in Sind continued for a month. But patriotic Mohajirs, Punjabis and Pathans foiled the Hindu conspiracy. Following the failure of these riots, Mumtaz Ali Bhutto had to leave his ministry in Sind. On the other side, Hindus got together in Bombay and after assessing their failure came to the conclusion that as long as Mohajirs, Punjabis and Pathans living in Sind were united they would never allow the conspiracies to succeed, simply because they considered themselves to be the guardians of the ideology of Islam and Pakistan. The

Hindus then changed their policy regarding Sind, and after the language riots together with Sindhi youth they set out on another goal, this time to sow seeds of discord among the three patriotic groups and lovers of Islam and to get them engaged in bloody conflicts with one another so that they would not be able to reunite. With this objective in mind they worked for establishing unity between Sindhis and Pathans by raising the slogan "Sindhi-Pathan Bhai-bhai" (Sindhis and Pathans are Brothers). But the nationalists did not succeed in implementing this policy of the Hindu lobby in Sind. Later the slogan "Sindhi-Punjabi Bhai-bhai" (Sindhis and Punjabis are Brothers) was raised, aimed at bringing about unity between Sindhis and Punjabis, but when the latter did not succumb to these tactics G.M.Syed was forced to write to the late Nawab Muzaffar asking him to prepare for Sindhi-Mohajir alliance. The late Nawab Muzaffar, who was aware of the conspiracy behind this message, refused the offer, saying that he was not prepared to quit the alliance of Punjabis and Pathans under any circumstance and that if Syed's group wanted an alliance then they should unite will all levels of people living in Sind. The Sindhi nationalists were not discouraged by Nawab Muzaffar's response; they continued their efforts and diverted their activities from the interior of Sind to Karachi, where minor conflicts resulting from traffic incidents had become a daily routine. In the initial stage, traffic incidents and fights were gradually made the basis for creating mistrust between Mohajirs and Pathans. As Altaf Husseini was raising the slogan of Mohajir nationalism, Sindhi nationalist organizations and leaders saw in him a reflection of their objective and they sensed their goal approaching. Therefore G.M.Syed, founder of the Jiye Sind Front, and Mumtaz Ali Bhutto, the ruler of Sind during the language disturbances, took him in hand and an agreement was signed between the Jiye Sind Front and Altaf Hussain's Mohajir National Movement stating that the Jiye Sind workers in educational institutions henceforth would not harass Mohajir students and that they would make Pathans and Punjabis the targets of their violence. But the Jiye Sind secretly advised its workers through a pamphlet that just like Punjabis, Mohajirs were also their enemies and that Mohajir students too should not be spared. They were told to bear in mind that Mohajir students were to be beaten just as Punjabi students were to be abused, and that if subsequently a leader were to turn up then they should apologize and say that they had made a mistake, that the Mohajirs had been beaten because they were mistaken for Punjabis. This pamphlet was intercepted and the Mohajirs also became aware of their tactics.

During this period the Jiye Sind's magic had produced the desired effect and had taken hold of Altaf Hussain, who on the basis of Mohajir nationalism had succeeded in leading the Mohajir students far away from Pakistan and Islam. After the Karachi meeting its films were immediately shown to Mr G.M. Syed, who congratulated Altaf Hussain on his success because Altaf Hussain had accomplished in a short period what G.M. Syed had not been able to accomplish in 40 years. The majority of Mohajir students were abusing the very country for the establishment of which their fore-fathers had given their blood. The Sindhi nationalists could see their goal of Sindhudesh approaching very near because with the help of Altaf Hussain they had turned a very large, patriotic Pakistani force into a

group of zealous Mohijir nationalists. They had taken away from them the passion for sacrificing themselves for Islam and Pakistan. Finally, things turned out exactly as designed by the Hindu lobby.

If the new Sindhis living in Sind stop helping one another, then the forces that are against Islam and look upon Raja Dahr as a hero will prevail, after which the new Sindhis will be forced to pray in the privacy of their homes. The new Sindhis who look upon Sind as their homeland and Sindhi soil as their own also believe in their right to employment and to admission to colleges in Sind. The people living in Sind earn their living here and buy property here. But as against people who come here merely to earn money or look upon Sind just as they look upon Dubai, the indigenous population should get preference. The quota system which forms the basis of hatred should be scrapped immediately. All parties big and small that are anti-Islamic, separatist and against the unity and integrity of Pakistan and purely nationalist in character should be banned forthwith, just like restrictions that are imposed on anti-Islamic literature. Similarly, restrictions should also be imposed on literature that is poisoning the minds of young patriots in Sind. The holding of posts in educational institutions and other important administrative positions in the country by Hindus should be eliminated. The government should start investigating Hindus whose gain business connections are in India, who are living in Sind only to spread prejudice and are transferring all the income they receive in Sind to India. The only way to halt the poisonous effects of prejudice spread by the Hindu lobby is to activate the patriotic Mohajir-Pathan-Punjabi Front formed by the late Nawab Muzaffar add, with the help of patriotic and pro-Islamic genuine Sindhis, make the Front strong and powerful so that the supporters of a separate Sindhudesh and other anti-Pakistan forces will not dare to confront the alliance in any field. All patriotic students in educational institutions should unite and fight against the fistful of anti-Pakistan elements present here. The Hindus and elements influenced by them will thus become helpless. The Hindus who have been living in Pakistan in order to poison the minds of the people with prejudice under the Bombay plan will finally return to India in disappointment. But for this the new Sindhis will have to prove their allegiance and love for Sind. They will also have to investigate for themselves cases of forged documents concerning domiciles and ferret out those responsible for making such documents unfairly and usurping their rights. The new Sindhis must realize that their children will not be able to benefit from parks built in Sahiwal or Mardan, as more and more development will take place in Sind. Other provinces, too, should get their due share. Now they also have a share in the rights of Sind. They must work selflessly for these rights. They will have to be assimilated with Sindhis and pride themselves on being called Sindhis in order to remove the misunderstanding of the old Sindhis and gain their confidence. The new Sindhis will have to move from Karachi to the interior of Sind because the conditions in the interior of Sind are quite different from those prevailing in Karachi. The Mohajirs will have to become Muslims, Pakistanis and Sindhis; otherwise no one will be able to have anything.

9315/9190
CSO: 4656/44

LEADER VOICES DEMAND FOR NORTHERN AREAS' RIGHTS

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 14 Feb 87 p 3

[Article by Tariq Butt]

[Text]

RAWALPINDI, Feb. 13: Qurban Ali, Convener People's Party Northern Areas demanded on Friday initiation of legal proceedings for high treason against those who lost Siachen Glacier.

He told a news conference here today that the loss of the sensitive part of the homeland was a national tragedy and no doubt the ruling elite of the country's longest martial law had shown "negligence" of their duty.

Qurban Ali recalled that the authorities made no effort to free some areas occupied by India in 1971. He urged the rulers to approach the international forums for the recovery of the lost territories. Three PPP leaders of the Northern Areas, Alangir, Wazir Shamshad Ali and Shehzad Khan advocate were also present at the news conference.

He demanded determination of the constitutional status of Northern Areas and put forth four options: The area be declared as the fifth province of Pakistan or given the status of a provisional province. If these two suggestions are not feasible because of any constitutional lacuna, the area should be given a system of local government on the pattern of Azad Jammu and Kashmir.

Qurban Ali said if this was also not possible, a separate federation comprising AJK and the Northern Areas be carved out. In such a dispensation, Northern Areas should be given 45 per cent quota in all the government departments.

/9317

CSO: 4600/152

The PPP leader commended the sagacity of Ms. Benazir Bhutto and her Central Executive Committee for granting representation to Northern Areas in the Party. He said it was an historic step and no political party in the country had so far taken such a step. He said a committee formed by the party would report back to the CEC of PPP on the constitutional rights of the Northern Areas.

Qurban Ali lamented that his area spread over about 28,000 square miles had been ignored by the successive regimes. It was the result of their ill-conceived policies that the area still had a controversial status and its people had not been given their constitutional rights.

He said it was the PPP regime which introduced revolutionary reforms like abolition of the "Jagirdari" system and black laws like FCR and which constructed the Karakoram Highway to improve the economic conditions of the area. He said that is why the people of the area had supported People's Party.

The PPP Convener said the Martial Law rulers had made every effort to erode the popularity of the People's Party in his area but had failed. He deplored the fact that the Martial Law imposed in Pakistan in 1977 had also been extended to the Northern Areas.

Qurban Ali said Prime Minister Junaid's claim that he had restored full democracy in the country appeared to be false in the case of Northern Areas. He demanded abolition of 25 per cent additional

allowance to the non-local employees in the government offices in the Northern Areas and said the scheme had created bitterness and unrest among the local Government servants.

He further demanded that the levy of income tax on the contractors of the Northern Areas should be declared null and void. The area should be declared "custom free" and the present Custom Post at Sost be shifted to the boundary of Kohistan and Northern Areas.

The PPP leader said the Northern Areas should be paid royalty by all those using the water of River Indus because it came from their area. He described as uncalled for the claims of other provinces regarding the proprietary rights over the Indus water.

Meanwhile, the Co-Chairperson of the Pakistan People's Party has nominated Mr. Qurban Ali from Gilgit as observer in the Central Executive Committee of the PPP, Gen (Retd) Tikka Khan, Secretary-General of the party said here today.

In a press statement he disclosed that Ms Benazir Bhutto has also formed a committee to make recommendations regarding the reorganisation of the party. The committee will comprise of Mr. Qurban Ali from Gilgit, Mr. Aijaz Tahseen from Chillas, Khawaja Abdur Rahim from Skardu and Mr. Malik Shah from Gilgit.

The committee will submit its recommendations to the Central Secretary General of the party by March 1, 1987.

MUSLIM LEAGUE PLANS TO PUBLISH MANIFESTO

Lahore THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English 18 Feb 87 p 1

[Text] MULTAN, Feb. 17: The manifesto of the Pakistan Muslim League was underprint and would be made public in the first week of next month, Federal Minister and Secretary-General of the party, Mr. Iqbal Ahmad Khan, said here today.

Replying to questions while briefing newsmen about his two-day discussions with Muslim League legislators here today, he said that the five-point programme of the Prime Minister was the gist of the manifesto.

He said the manifesto stood for transforming the country into an Islamic welfare State. It conformed to neither left nor right posture in political terminology. It was anchored in Islamic system ensuring stability and solidarity of the country, he added. Islam, he said, emphasised equality of opportunity and distribution of means of production. Islam, he said, enjoined on its believers not to take their food as long as someone was hungry in their neighbourhood.

Asked if the party manifesto envisaged further land reforms, he said enough of these had been carried out already. The party, he said, was carrying out a scientific study in this regard and whatever was in the best national interest would be done.

He said that Islam taught its followers to eke out honest living. Honest earning could give people only respectable living, he added.

Mr. Iqbal Ahmad Khan said that he had asked party workers and elected representatives to hold party elections up to district level by March 10 next throughout the country.

He said during his two-day stay in Multan he held meetings with Members of National and Provincial Assemblies from Multan, Bahawalpur and Dera Ghazi Khan Divisions and discussed party enrolment and elections with them.

He said he stressed the need for keeping close contact with party workers and associating them in preparation and implementation of development schemes in their areas.

He said he had also asked the Federal and Provincial Ministers to keep contact with the party workers and hold open "kutcheries" in the local offices of the party and solve their problems. The matters falling outside the jurisdiction of the respective Minister would be sent to the concerned ministries for action, he added.

He said the Members of the National and Provincial Assemblies assured their full co-operation and reiterated their determination to organise the party at grass roots level.—APP.

/12828
CSO: 4600/156

COMMENTARY LOOKS BACK AT 1985 ELECTIONS

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 15 Feb 87 p 4

[Article by Ali Sikander]

[Text]

The President, General Ziaul Haq, announced the 'election exercise' '85' on 12th August, 1983, as his birth-day gift to the nation. The announcement was timed to pre-empt the much heralded launching of the MRD movement. The MRD movement, or what turned out to be the 'build Jatoi' movement, petered out because it lacked commitment and, second, because it was a naive attempt at 'acc. replay' of the agitations of 1968 and 1977, minus backing from the Establishment. The Jatoi card was double-edged, somewhat useful for the regime, if it meant dealing with the ticking 'Bhutto bomb'.

Conversely it was used by interested quarters against the regime to make it relent on its---

- nuclear programme,
- non-acceptance of Indian hegemony,
- non-recognition of Israel,
- settle Afghanistan stand, especially after the '82 Zia-Andropov breakthrough,
- neutrality in the Iraq-Iran War.

As a run-up to the final exercise of election 85, the first hurdle crossed was with the 'health despatch' of Mrs. Bhutto. This was managed in late 82/ early 83. The next major hurdle was 'bowling out' Benazir until 1990, so that chastened Benazir could be easier to deal with later by the powers that be. Benazir Bhutto left for London on 10th Jan 1984. As a

quid-pro-quo, General Zia played the 'grand drama' on 19th Jan, 84 at the OIC 'summit-carnival' in Casablanca and brought back an unrepentant Egypt back into the OIC fold.

TALKS

Part-II of Election 85 begins when Gen. Zia on his return from Casablanca drove straight from the airport to a meeting with Mohammad Khan Junejo and held seven hours of talks with him. There, the future Prime Minister of Pakistan was anointed. All other PM hopefuls were ruled out. Jatoi, Mahinood Haroon, Mir Ali Ahmad Khan Talpur and some decoy hopefuls such as Elahi Buksh Soomro and Zafar Jamali. The President kept his part of the bargain with the Pir of Pagaro and his nominee was selected as Prime Minister as a reward for the solid support given by the Pir especially during the agitation of '83, when otherwise, even his closest friends (even from the establishment) had decided to distance themselves from Gen. Zia's fortunes. Each one of them getting the 'royal boot' in due course.

Part-III of Election 85 was the referendum, which was an integral part of any eventual opening up; the Referendum and even the question posed had been formulated wayback in '77/78 if not earlier. However, the final date selected i.e 19 December was probably an advancement, because of events in India following the assassination of Mrs. Gandhi. The Referendum was budgeted to be a failure by analysts at Pindi-Islamabad but the 'fiasco' as it

turned out to be, really wiped out whatever little political standing the President had. And Gen. Zia instead of opening up politically had to recoil and take shelter in the bunkers of his original and only constituency to date - the Army. Between Dec. 19 and Feb 25 President Zia survived on a day-to-day basis with ruinous rise of impending coups etc. This was the period when Gen. Zia looked his weakest.

Part-IV of Election 85 were the polls to the national and provincial assemblies when a respectable voter turn-out appeared to cancel out the effects of a wash-out Referendum. Every candidate certainly every winner was reported to have been computer-cleared and credibility was to be lent to the polls by an 'arranged' knocking out of certain stalwarts like Raja Zafarul Haq, Mir Ali Ahmad Talpur etc. They had to be removed for other reasons as well-otherwise. They were to be rewarded differently. Some saw this as a page out of the White Paper, in which Pir Ali Mohammad Rashidi had advised this line of action to Prime Minister Bhutto as a means of countering a 'boycott' by the opposition. To the regime it didn't really matter who won; They were all political lightweights who would look upto the regime all through 5 years and with nowhere else to go.

Part-V of Election 85 were the constitutional amendments made by President Zia to the 73 constitution. This single act seemed to validate the stand taken by the political forces, which boycotted the whole exercise of Election 85; President Zia was playing poker with all 4 packs of cards in his pocket. He got the 'elected' representatives he wanted, while not

denying the pleasure of voting to the electorate.

Two years after Election-85 Pakistan is back to square one, with another constitutional crisis brewing. The Greek trilogy seems to be near complete. The farce of a referendum, the comedy of an election and the tragedy of sweeping constitutional amendments. A system rightfully rejected by the wise but silent majority seems to be bungling from day to day. Like a bad play or drama, the people have been provided with 'live entertainment' from time to time. The contradictions inherent in a 'document of mischief' have surfaced from time to time between the 'formal chief executive and the real real one. The non-party non-ideological parliament is struggling to develop cohesion and coherence, when that is the last thing the authors of the Exercise had in mind.

BUY TIME

Informed quarters confirm, that the only *raison d'être* for election 85 was to buy time and that the 'sandbag' was to last 18 months; and then having ducked, the powers that be would emerge stronger from the wings. As far as the real power holders are concerned election 85 has been a tremendous success as it fulfils the basic goal; self-perpetuation ad infinitum. But for the people of Pakistan the whole exercise fails to satisfy the one irrevocable canon of any constitutional arrangement: institutional and orderly transfer of power. In case of Election 85, transfer of power can take place between and amongst all persons, except Gen. Ziaul Haq who would not be willing to transfer power even to Mr. Mohammad Ziaul Haq.

[The writer is an Islamabad based free-lance columnist].

/12828
CSO: 4600/155

NATIONAL HIGHWAY: PRIVATE SECTOR ROLE WELCOMED

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 14 Feb 87 p 4

[Text]

THE Government is believed to have taken a decision to involve private enterprise in the building of Pakistan's largest super national highway cutting across the length of the land. In this connection, some pertinent issues merit particular attention. First, the state of the highways is generally abysmal making road travel highly uncomfortable and hazardous. Second, the Government has been tardy in its obligations to ensure the proper maintenance of these major arteries. But having said that it must be admitted that Government's capacity is circumscribed by the limits of its resources. Therefore, the induction of the private sector makes sense in that they have the money, the expertise and the capital to do a decent job. A precedent of sorts could be set, making private sector a trend-setter in projects of public weal. However, it is hoped that they will not burden the common man with unreasonable tariffs and tolls. Works of public interest should not come at the expense of squeezing the common man. The Government would also be well advised to play a constructive role in monitoring the quality of the work to be undertaken by the private sector.

The private entrepreneurs for their part should use the super highway project to branch out into other areas of national activity. Their role thus far, as a social factor of consequence, has been non-existent to say the least, with the focus directed on self-aggrandizement. The private sector of Pakistan should realise (which they have not) that a strong and prosperous Pakistan offers greater scope for their investments. But they have to make the climate congenial by putting back into the country from which they have drawn wealth beyond their dreams.

/9317
CSO: 4600/152

WAPDA SAID TO EXPLORE WATER NEAR QUETTA

Lahore THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English 18 Feb 87 p 7

[Text]

LAHORE, Feb. 17: WAPDA's Hydrogeology Directorate has explored bit reservoirs of under ground water in the hilly terrains near Marriabad, east of Quetta and at Batagoo in Kalat District and installed tubewells to provide over 14 lakh gallons of drinking water daily to the residents of the area.

According to a press release of WAPDA the two recently completed schemes are part of WAPDA's efforts towards exploring and exploiting much needed water resources in Baluchistan.

Under the scheme completed in rocky terrain near Marriabad a tubewell capable of supplying six-and a half lakh gallons of water daily to the inhabitants of the locality has been installed,

completing it with the coopteration of Sardar Nasir Ali, MPA.

WAPDA's Hydrogeology Directorate has already set up two tubewells which are pumping out 13 lakh gallons of water daily in Marriabad. Thus with the commissioning of new tubewell, about 20 lakh gallons of water daily is now available for the residents of Marriabad and Saidabad localities of Quetta city which is more than their requirements.

The Hydrogeology Directorate has also exploited water in big quantity at the depth of over 400 feet at Batagoo, the most difficult hilly area of Kalat District. A tubewell has been installed at Batagoo which will provide eight lakh gallons of water daily to the people of the area hitherto facing severe water shortage. —APP.

/12828
CSO: 4600/156

ASCHAR KHAN ASSAILS SHARIAT BILL

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 16 Feb 87 p 6

[Text] LAHORE, Feb. 15: The controversial Shariat Bill, as viewed by Air Marshal (Retd) Mohammad Asghar Khan President of the Tehrik-e-Istaqlal, was a device to impose despotic rule on the entire body politic of Pakistan in a bid to deny fundamental rights to sections of population held in discrimination and to oppose progressive changes in the obsolete socio-economic system.

Talking to delegations of industrial workers, the youth and women at the central office of the T.I on Sunday, Asghar Khan held the Shariat Bill as a "Big Fraud" and said that the Bill was in fact a means by which Gen. Ziaul Haq wants to perpetuate his rule by selecting a few 'Darbari Maulvis, who would then be required to give 'Fatwas' against any progressive laws that the future Parliament may proceed to frame and enforce in the country to ameliorate the lot of the people living in deprivation. He said that women, youth workers, lawyers and the Journalists were the sections of the population who had suffered most during the last nine years of military rule during which all democratic institutions had been crippled. All these

sections, he said, have a very important role to play in the democratic struggle against the present regime. The Tehrik, he added, believed in equal rights and status for women and wanted to give industrial workers a share not only in profits but in the management of the enterprises as well. In order to eliminate the unemployment among the youth, he said, the Tehrik has devised a radical programme of land reforms, rapid industrialisation, and special work programmes for unemployed graduates.

Ms Mehnaz Rafi Vice President of the Tehrik, Mian Khalid Rashid Central Joint Secretary, Omar Asghar Khan Chairman Istaqlal Youth League, Shahbaz Javed, Shaukat Ali, Labour Leader Zubair Warrasi and others also spoke on the occasion.

During his stay in Lahore Asghar Khan will address the Provincial Working Committee of his party and a meeting of the Christian Community on Feb. 16. He will deliver a speech on Pak-Afghan relations in the context of the current Afghan Issue on Feb. 17 at 3.30 pm at Hotel Pearl Continental.

/12828
CSO: 4600/155

COMMENTARY DISCUSSES POSSIBLE PPP-JI COOPERATION

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 15 Feb 87 p 4

[Article by Khalid Akhtar]

[Text]

The PPP-Jamaat cooperation has raised quite a storm. It was a rare sight to see their leaders addressing a joint rally. While nothing can be certain in politics there remains few prospects that the Jamaat-PPP link-up can go very far. But nevertheless the PPP-Jamaat understanding, no matter how limited it may be, is a significant political development whose fallout can greatly influence the pattern of things to come.

The demonstration by the PPP and Jamaat women workers in the Sind Assembly premises last month (staged separately) was not a mere co-incidence. It seems to have been planned that way. And it shook the Sind government which in a state of panic detained the whole Opposition in the Sind Assembly. It was the foretaste for the Sind Administration of what PPP-Jamaat collaboration could mean.

The PPP Co-Chairperson has denied any link-up with the Jamaat. But her clarification leaves many questions unanswered. The IJT rally was addressed by no less a person than Rao Rashid, who is virtually No. 2 in PPP political hierarchy. It was quite a significant gesture which could not have been invoked by random considerations. The blossoming of cooperation between the two in spite of an acrimonious past is nothing less than a phenomenon. Certainly a more logical explanation is needed to fully understand the change. There may be many reasons for the PPP to desire a new

direction in its relations with the Jamaat. Benazir has never worked on the thesis that Gen. Zia's friends are her enemies and vice versa. On the contrary she has endeavoured to make inroads in the camp of Zia's supporters. This has been her strategy to weaken the 'Strong Man'. Without going into the merits and demerits of this approach, it has remained a No. 1 priority for Benazir to court the friendship of the U.S. The PPP Co-Chairperson now seems to have decided to adopt this strategy at home as well. How far the Jamaat (who notwithstanding its differences remains Gen. Zia's staunchest supporter) will be friendly or accommodating to anti-Zia quarters remains to be seen. There are apprehensions that like her American policy Benazir's conciliatory posture towards the Jamaat may not bring the desired results.

NEW POSTURE

What is worse is that like her American policy her new posture towards the Jamaat has greatly disturbed and agitated the common and dedicated PPP worker. One of the reasons why the PPP cadre has lost its dynamism is the fact that the PPP high command policies, in most cases based on compromise, have left the PPP worker confused and emotionally broken. Being at the receiving end, it has not been easy for the PPP leadership to come out with a clear-cut strategy to deal with a highly complex situation. Frequently it has been forced to seek adjustments which have tended to erode its ideological appeal and outlook. The PPP leadership

will have to review the whole situation if it wants to revitalise the party ranks again.

MANOEUVRABILITY

Secondly, the PPP has conveyed that it can and will enter into an arrangement with any organisation if it serves its purpose. It has not been uncommon for political parties, both in the MRD fold and outside, to repeatedly take up positions that went against the PPP interests. It appears that PPP no longer wants to restrict the sphere of its manoeuvrability. This has brought too many anomalies on the surface. One of them is that the ANP, a component of the MRD, is confronting the Jamaat in NWFP and the PPP, another component of the MRD, is hobnobbing with the Jamaat in Sind. How are such contradictions to be removed? Perhaps this may result in realignment of political forces. Nawabzada Nasrullah Khan, a veteran MRD leader, has already said that the MRD will cooperate with the Jamaat, NPP and JUP. How this cooperation will materialise is yet not clear.

Thirdly, the PPP-Jamaat cooperation has remained confined to Sind, more precisely to Karachi alone. This can be due to two reasons. In the first place the PPP may have found in Prof. Ghafoor, the Naib Amir of Jamaat, an acceptable leader with whom it could get along. It is no secret that Prof. Ghafoor differs with the Jamaat Amir, Mian Tufail (on many vital issues). Finally the PPP-Jamaat understanding could be an offshoot of the Sind situation alone.

The Karachi situation has

taken a turn for the worst. The Jamaat's Karachi Mayor, Abdus Sattar Afghani, has been removed from his position and in his place an Administrator has been appointed. The Jamaat is certain to react strongly to this development. It is difficult to forecast PPP's role in the newly emerging scenario. But a situation is developing where temptation to make political gains could be irresistible.

STRONG REASONS

Now the crucial question is why the Jamaat, which has all along questioned the ideological mooring of the People's Party and never had a soft corner for the Bhutto family, should review its position towards the ladies from Larkana. There has been no word from the Jamaat's high command about the Karachi show of cooperation between the two parties.

There are equally strong reasons for the Jamaat to soften its posture towards the PPP. With Pakistan Government adopting a flexible attitude on the Afghan issue the Jamaat has deemed it appropriate to assert its position. Secondly, the Jamaat desperately needs the revival of IJT, without which it cannot launch an effective campaign for the passage of the Shariah Bill. It is being doubted that the PPP can benefit from all this. But what is forgotten is that the lifting of the ban on student unions would mean loosening of control by the government on a vital sphere of political activities, which will proportionately help all the political parties.

/12828
CSO: 4600/155

MRD-JI COOPERATION SAID NOT POSSIBLE

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 16 Feb 87 p 8

[Text]

LAHORE, Feb. 15: Nawabzada Nasrullah Khan, President Pakistan Democratic Party and the current Convener of the MRD has said that there is no possibility of cooperation between the the Jamaat-e-Islami and the MRD, unless there is a radical shift in the policies of the Jamaat.

Speaking at the Tajzia programme of the Lahore Press Club, here today the MRD Convener said that the MRD could not co-operate with any political party, whose programme came into conflict with the Four Points of the MRD. He said he had two major differences with the Jamaat-e-Islami. It considered the 1984 Referendum a legal action of the Martial Law regime whereas the MRD was of the opinion that the Referendum was a violation of the 1973 Constitution. He charged that the Referendum was conducted on the suggestion of the head of the Jamaat. Nawabzada Nasrullah Khan said that the second major difference was that the MRD did not accept the non-party elections whereas the Jamaat had participated in them.

Commenting on the political, administrative law and order situation, he said that things had never been as bad as they were today which posed a threat to the unity and solidarity of the country. He said that the longest ever Martial Law had given the country instability and slogans of confederation and Sindhu Deshi. The country, he said, was passing through its most critical period. Karachi, he observed, was in the grip of ethnic riots, and similar clashes had also occurred at Quetta and other places while Lahore had seen the worst type of sectarian riots. Besides other factors, he said, non-party elections had promoted various

kinds of prejudices and the rulers were also promoting these elements under their policy of "divide and rule."

Nawabzada Nasrullah Khan deplored the Government's attitude and said that it had changed the character of the Pakistan Army by converting it into a political party. He said that it was very unfortunate that the Government was not giving any importance to 'national consensus'. 'Nowhere in a civilised society can public opinion be ignored in such a manner', the Nawabzada added. He warned that if this situation was allowed to continue then surely a situation would arise wherein even the democratic forces would become irrelevant.

He was asked to comment on the Government's claim that it was in contact with the political parties. Nawabzada Nasrullah Khan stated categorically that at no level had, any contact with the Government been established. Replying to another question, he said a meeting of the MRD would be convened soon, and in this connection the Secretary General of the MRD was establishing contacts with other component parties of the MRD.

PPI ADDS: Nawabzada Nasrullah Khan said the Government had failed to win the support of masses and was busy undoing its own decisions. He said the Government only two days ago, terminated the Karachi Municipal Corporation and arrested all its councillors including the Mayor which proved its failure to control even its own men.

He said the restoration of the students unions in educational institutions was also an issue of the MRD and it would continue to support the demand.

/12828

CSO: 4600/155

PLANS FOR 4TH KARACHI DISTRICT SAID FINAL

Lahore THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English 19 Feb 87 p 8

[Text] KARACHI, Feb. 18: The proposal for creation of a new district in Karachi had been finalised and a final report in the shape of proposal had been submitted to the Sind Chief Minister for approval.

The Sind Chief Minister, Syed Ghous Ali Shah, after the clean-up operation of Sohrab Goth and disturbances in Karachi had decided to create one more district here as Karachi North. On this directive, the Divisional administration did the necessary spade work and final meeting was held yesterday in which the demarcation of District North and redefinition of the exiting three districts, i.e. East, West and South was completed.

Previously the police stations of Sadar, Defence Mahmoodabad, Civil Lines, Frere, Clifton, Atrilery Maidan, Freedy Garden, Nabi Bux, Aram Bagh, Mithader, Kharader, Eidgah, Napier, Risala, Baghdadi, Kalakot, Chakiwara, Jackson, TPX and Docks comprised District South. Police stations Liaqatabad, Gulberg, North Nazimabad, Jauharabad, New Karachi, Manghopir, Nazimabad, Gulbahar, Pak Colony, SITE, Baldia, Mauripur, Orangi Town, Orangi Extension comprised District West, and police stations New Town, Jamshed Quarters, Soldier Bazar, Brigade, Ferozeabad, Bahadurabad, Gulshan-e-Iqbal,

Shahra-e-Faisal, Airport, Shah Faisal Colony, Malir, Model Colony, Malir Extension, Quaidabad, Landhi, Korangi, Gadap, Gulzar-i-Hijri and Cattle Colony comprised District East.

Now the new North District will comprise Liaquatabad, Jauharabad, Gulberg, North Karachi, North Nazimabad, Gulbahar, part of Gulzare Hijri and Gadap police stations. The areas comprised Docks Jackson, TPX police stations had been detached from South District and attached in the West District.

With the creation of new district, the District West and a small portion of District East had been disturbed and placed under the administrative control of District North.

Government sources said that after the approval of the Chief Minister, District North will start functioning immediately, probably from the first week of next month. The official of North District would be situated in North Karachi, near Nagan Chowranghi.

/12828

CSO: 4600/156

BRIEFS

KARACHI DIVIDED INTO 14 ZONES--The city of Karachi has been divided into 14 zones, each zone having its own resources, under a crash programme for immediate improvement of road and other facilities and the city. According to a spokesman of KDA, on the directive of Chief Minister, Syed Ghous Ali Shah a crash programme has been initiated with immediate effect for the improvement of the conditions of Karachi such as the water supply, electrification situation and beautification. For this purpose a meeting was held in KDA Civic Centre which was attended by Secretary, Local Government, Administrator, KMC, Director-General, KDA Municipal Commissioner, Managing Director, Karachi Water and Sewerage Board and heads of departments of KDA, KMC and Karachi Water and Sewerage Board. It will be a joint action plan and will start tomorrow. The major emphasis in this programme will be laid for cleanliness, sanitation, garbage removal, equitable distribution of water repair of leaks, repair of roads, street-lights and tree plantation etc. [Text] [Lahore THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English 19 Feb 87 p 8]/12828

1986 OIL PRODUCTION--The country recorded an increase of over 50 percent in the crude oil production last year. In the year 1985-86, the oil production rose to over 14 million barrels from 9.5 million barrels in the previous year. [Text] [Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 22 Feb 87 BK] /12624

IDA APPROVES LOAN--International Development Association [IDA] has approved a loan worth more than \$42 million for a program of increasing agricultural production in Pakistan. The loan will be utilized to popularize a program aimed at providing assistance to farmers in Punjab and Sind. Pakistan is to provide more than \$16 million for this program. [Text] [Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 28 Feb 87 BK] /12624

CSO: 4600/146

EDITORIAL HAILS GOVERNMENT'S DEVOLUTION PLAN

BK180509 Colombo DAILY NEWS in English 5 Feb 87 p 4

[Editorial: "The Key to Peace"]

[Text] Power, it has been said, is the substance of politics. In a sense, there could be sound truth in that equation. But without a wider vision, without statesmanship and higher inspirations, power politics would soon degenerate into anarchy; into the law of the jungle.

For that reason, National Security Minister Lalith Athulathmudali in a recent statement at Maho, stressed that the most important thing was not the use of arms but the winning of hearts and minds of the people in the north. It must be taken to state a great principle which deserves deep reflection and increasing fidelity.

High-pitched jackals urging others to kill, and kill wantonly, overlook the fact that it is noe thing to surround defenseless groups, quite another to take on, to provoke unrestrained atrocities by terrorist gangs sworn to avenge what they cite as repeated wrongs to their kinsmen. We must guard against any action that will give terrorism a false image--the false a-pearence of redeeming justice.

A community stung by a sense of persecution and injustice eventually is transformed into an unremitting enemy, willing--if not properly reclaimed and reconciled--to engage in an unending feud. We must not close our eyes altogether to what has happened in recent history: in Vietnam for instance, where among other things, the resilience and unyielding durability of guerrilla tactics was established again and again.

That is just one reason why statesmen like President J.R. Jayewardene and Minister Lalith Athulathmudali have always preferred a political solution; why they have preferred to strive for a peace based on mutual conviction, a sense of justice and reunion.

Minister Athulathmudali was able to claim that the stand the government had taken had earned the support of several powerful groups once it was explained to them.

Some of these like Amnesty International earlier genuinely believed that the majority of our people were cowardly oppressors. The chauvinists who engineered July '83 riots, clearly caused more long-term damage to the country than to the Tamil residents of Colombo. Today, some of these hysterical flyweights are reported to employ bodyguards to protect their own lives. This only brings out the familiar truth that cowardly behavior is always the work of puny, neurotic minds--brave under the influence of pep pills, and craven once their intoxicating effects have worn out.

The devolution of power as the government proposes implies a sharing of power within a unitary state; not the creation of some sort of dominion status or rival sovereignty.

The best minds in India, in the West and in America are agreed in principle that the formula represents a just and fair framework for a settlement with the Tamils. Only the terror groups in Jaffna are really asking for more. But as recent events have so amply shown, if power is the substance of politics, neither the LTTE (Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam) nor any other group has the power even to provide Jaffna with such basic essentials as fuel and oil.

If the separatists today give the matter more thought than they do, they may discover that the converse if not altogether true: all politics is not power. At its higher reaches, it encompasses understanding, justice and equality: of course, these virtues demand sincerity in the first place. But given those basics, only a political solution can bring peace--the power of arms today may only drive the enemy deeper underground.

/3738
CSO: 4600/153

SRI LANKA

TAMIL VILLAGERS WANT 'CONTINUED MILITARY PRESENCE'

BK230725 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English 0511 GMT 23 Feb 87

["OANA/POOL" item]

[Text] Colombo, 23 Feb (LANKA PUWATH)--Athe Tamil villagers in northern Sri Lanka whose areas have been cleared of terrorists, related harrowing tales of harassment by separatist terrorists when joint operations commander Cyril Ranatunge toured the areas during the week end and spoke to them, official sources told LANKA PUWATH today.

They mentioned in particular the areas of Killinochchi, Paranthan, Adampan, Mantai, Illupukudaveli in northern and north western Sri Lanak stretching from Killinochchi to Adampan 24 miles away from Mannar.

The sources said the villagers had appealed for a continued military presence in there [as received] freed areas, as they feared they would lose their newly won freedom if the terrorists returned and made life a misery for them once again.

Meanwhile, rehabilitation work is going on pace in these areas recently cleared of terrorists by Sri Lankan security forces.

The government agents and Ministry of Rehabilitation officials were personally involved in the operation to help return thousands of villagers to resume their normal lives free of terrorism, the official sources said.

/9738
CSO: 4600/153

SECURITY FORCES DESTROY LTTE CAMP IN NORTHWEST

BK240759 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English 0735 GMT 24 Feb 87

[OANA/POOL item]

[Text] Colombo, 24 Feb (LANKA PUWATH)--Security forces destroyed a terrorist camp belonging to the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) at Illupukadevi in Mannar District, north west Sri Lanka yesterday, the media center in Colombo told LANKA PUWATH today.

Among the items recovered from the base were one 60 mm mortar, 28 (60 mm) mortar bombs, 12 (83 mm) mortar bombs, 2 303 rifles, 5 RPG rockets, 10 Russian-made grenades, 75 electric detonators, 1 riot gas can, 1 theodolite and 2 claymore mines.

In another operation, a security force patrol arrested 24 terrorist suspects near Gajabapura in Trincomalee District, eastern Sri Lanka yesterday. Eighteen of them have been identified as members of the TELO, LTTE, PLOTE and EPRLF.

Meanwhile, the LTTE area leader killed together with Gajan by the EPRLF gang of terrorists at Pudukudiiruppu in Batticaloa District, last Thursday has been identified as Pandian, the media center said.

**/9738
CSO: 4600/153**

MILITARY ACHIEVES OBJECTIVES AGAINST LTTE

BK201247 Hong Kong AFP in English 1122 GMT 20 Feb 87

[Text] Colombo, 20 Feb (AFP)--The Sri Lankan military achieved its objectives during an offensive against Tamil separatists which ended Thursday, killing more than 80 militants and overrunning key bases, a senior military official said Friday.

General Cyril Ranatunga, who heads the anti-guerrilla joint operations command, said that security forces destroyed Tamil separatist hideouts and overran training camps during the sweep of the north and east of the island.

He told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE that bases belonging to the largest militant group, the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), were also destroyed during the operation.

Security forces achieved their objective of securing territory in the north and clearing roads to and within the northern Jaffna peninsula, he said.

Gen Ranatunga said that some of the troops in combat areas had been withdrawn to give them a rest and that fresh troops would be deployed.

The offensive involved an estimated 6,000 troops and was aimed mainly at the LTTE, which has emerged as the strongest group campaigning for a Tamil homeland in the north and east.

Well-informed sources here said that the LTTE suffered heavy casualties during the fighting, including the loss of three commanders and about a dozen guerrillas when explosives they were handling blew up in Jaffna last Saturday.

More than 50 civilians were killed and at least 75 wounded in the blast, which occurred when the militants accidentally set off the explosives they were attempting to attach to a water tanker, the sources said.

General Ranatunga also denied Friday an LTTE statement released in Madras, southern India, that 37 civilians, including 15 women and children, had been hacked and shot to death by troops during an operation in the northeast.

He said that no civilians were killed but that several LTTE cadres died when troops overran a training camp and a bomb factory in dense jungle close to Muttur in eastern Trincomalee District.

/9738
CSO: 4600/153

SRI LANKA

TAMIL REBEL LEADER ASKS NO SUPPORT FOR LTTE

BK220557 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English 0517 GMT 22 Feb 87

["LANKA PUWATH/OANA/POOL" item]

[Text] Colombo, 22 Feb (LANKA PUWATH)--The leader of the Peoples Liberation Organization of Tamil Eelam (PLOTE) gang of terrorists Uma Maheswaran who is based in Madras has in a statement appealed to the people of Tamil Nadu not to give their support to Vellupillai Prabhakaran, leader of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam [LTTE].

The statement issued through Vasudeva secretary of PLOTE and published in the Tamil Nadu mass circulation Tamil Journal V'MALAIMALAR' headlined "Do Not Support Prabhakaran" says the LTTE leader who was hiding in Tamil Nadu for more than 4 years has now gone to Jaffna to patch up the differences in his own group.

The LTTE is behaving worse than the Sri Lankan Government. The PLOTE leader Mendis was invited for talks, then [words indistinct] and killed by the LTTE. From this one incident we have found out who our real enemies are and who had fired gun shots at whom.

People of Tamil Nadu please note LTTE leaders received your support and thrived on it. Now they are killing their colleagues of other liberation groups by following a fascist policy in Tamil Eelam.

Maheswaran concludes "the LTTE is likely to create trouble in the Indian sub-continent. If he succeeds in capturing power in Tamil Eelam, the people will lose the democratic rights they now enjoy".

/9738
CSO: 4600/153

THREE 'GANGS OF TERRORISTS' ALLY TO FIGHT LTTE

BK251031 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English 0949 GMT 25 Feb 87

[OANA/POOL Item]

[Text] Colombo, 25 Feb (LANKA PUWATH)--Three gangs of terrorists have forged an alliance to fight their common enemy the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) led by Velupillai Prabhakaran, Jaffna sources told LANKA PUWATH today.

They said that Peoples Liberation Organization of Tamil Eelam (PLOTE), Eelam Peoples Revolutionary Liberation Front (EPRLF) and Tamil Eelam Liberation Organization (TEL0) who earlier withdrew to the jungles in northern and eastern Sri Lanka following an onslaught directed at the three rival gans, individually, have now after discussions in Madras formed an alliance to battle the LTTE.

Already the EPRLF has had a series of firefights in eastern Sri Lanka with the LTTE.

But, according to the sources with the three of them getting together and regrouping their cadres, the LTTE could be eliminated, as it tried to do to them.

Already, PLOTE leader Uma Maheswaran has warned the people of Tamil Nadu and Jaffna [words indistinct] hurting the LTTE and being in danger of losing the democratic rights they now enjoy, if they support Prabhakaran.

/9738
CSO: 4600/153

SRI LANKA

TAMIL RADIO CONDEMNS DAILY NEWS, DECCAN HERALD

BK040704 (Clandestine) Voice of Tamil Eelam in Tamil 1330 GMT 3 Feb 87

[Text] The Colombo newspaper DAILY NEWS, which is controlled by the Sri Lankan Jayewardene Government, published a strange and fantastic lie yesterday. The substance of that report was that the LTTE's [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] thinker and political adviser, Dr Anton Balasingham, had described the LTTE hierarchy by comparing it to that of the Mafia. This paper has reported that Dr Balasingham gave an interview to the Bangalore paper DECCAN HERALD comparing the Mafia, which is notorious for its smuggling, [words indistinct] and spying, to the LTTE hierarchy, saying that LTTE leader Prabhakaran uses spy rings to discover problems within his organization.

We strongly condemn the DAILY NEWS and DECCAN HERALD for this. Everyone should be cautious about this cunning government attempt to bring into disrepute Dr Balasingham and his LTTE organization. It is clear that this report published by the Sri Lankan Government and the Bangalore paper management is, on the one hand, silly propaganda against the LTTE and, on the other, an attempt to split Balasingham and Prabhakaran.

/9738
CSO: 4600/153

TAMIL RADIO ON CURRENT SITUATION, FUTURE ROLE

BK120815 (Clandestine) Voice of Tamil Eelam in Tamil 1330 GMT 10 Feb 87

[News Commentary]

[Text] After a long recess we have resumed our task in a good way. We would like to note the reason we have been silent for such a long interval of time. This recess has enabled us to evaluate correctly the recent sad incidents that occurred in Tamil Eelam and Sri Lanka and to make a decision about our future course of action after carefully analyzing the situation. Now, we have arrived at certain categorical and correct conclusions.

Firstly, it is clear that the Mayewardene Government and Prabhakaran's Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam [LTTE] have not evinced any interest in taking steps to reach an agreement to end this war. The Communist Party of Tamil Eelam believes that in the event of a peaceful settlement an end to this meaningless war can be achieved. It is also to be noted here that although the Communist Party of Tamil Eelam does not fully endorse the policies of the LTTE, it has not failed to support the LTTE.

Secondly, if the peace talks are not continued there are more chances for the intensification of the war. The armed forces of Prabhakaran and Jayewardene are confined to their barracks and are not able to see each other. Under these circumstances it can also be seen that both sides--the freedom fighters and the government soldiers--are being trained for war.

Thirdly, both sides do not have the military power to defeat each other. The Sri Lankan Army has more military hardware and equipment, but the LTTE possesses people's power and has adopted warfare suited to its land. Because of this the LTTE has grown during this conflict and has become the force responsible to defend the soil of Tamil Eelam. However, it can also be seen that this position is different in the eastern province of Trincomalee and Batticaloa Districts.

We can say that the controversies existing around the Sri Lankan Army and the police task force is responsible for this. In this appeal, at this juncture, to the people of Jaffna, the Voice of Tamil Eelam requests them to think seriously about this situation and to see what they should do next. If their response does not come true, it is also in their hands. If the

people of Jaffna decide to follow the LTTE it is better for them to take weapons and go to the battle field. That is the duty of a people who love real freedom. On the contrary, if these people have differences of opinion with the LTTE, it may pave the way for creating a consensus of all, by pressurizing the leaders and the freedom fighters of the organization who are depending upon the people's power.

As far as we are concerned, it is clear that they have not secured consistent support of the people this time. Our organization still appears to be small. Therefore, we are going to undertake rapid useful activities in the future. We will conduct our revolutionary activities based on true Marxist ideologies. We believe that at that time the freedom fighters of the Tamil Eelam and the people can see an end to all sorts of activities on this soil.

/9738

CSO: 4600/153

TAMIL RADIO ON OBSTACLE TO INDIAN MEDIATION

BK201250 (Clandestine) Voice of Tamil Eelam in Tamil 1330 GMT 15 Feb 87

[News Commentary]

[Text] Another obstacle has arisen to Indian mediation efforts with the condition that only the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam [LTTE] should be invited to the talks with the Sri Lankan Government. Earlier, the LTTE agreed to observe a cease-fire and to resume talks with the Sri Lankan Government with Indian mediation. Now, however, the LTTE demands that it alone should be allowed to represent the Tamil people at the talks.

In reply to this statement by LTTE spokesman Anton Balasingham, the Sri Lankan Government has asked for observance of a cease-fire and the resumption of the peace talks which were suspended on 19 December. It also said that if there is compliance with the call for peace talks, the oil ban on the north will be lifted and military action will be halted.

The talks are to discuss the proposal to expand the Tamil region by linking Amparai District in Eastern Province with Uva Province. Views are currently being exchanged between New Delhi and Colombo on this controversial matter. There is no clear indication as to whether or not the freedom fighters will accept these new proposals.

As a result of secret diplomatic activities in the past week there are some encouraging signs pointing toward a solution to the ethnic crisis. Reports from Colombo say that the letter from Rajiv Gandhi laying down the three conditions for continued Indian mediatory efforts was very carefully reviewed at the Sri Lankan cabinet meeting last week. Sri Lankan President Jayewardene sent a humble reply to Rajiv Gandhi last Thursday [12 February]. Reports also say that Jayewardene consulted ministers Lalith Athulathmudali and Gamini Dissanayake before that. The Indian Government sent its response to the Sri Lankan Government's reply yesterday. However, no details of the reply have been revealed.

/9738
CSO: 4600/153

BRIEFS

REFUGEES RETURN FROM INDIA--Colombo, 31 Jan (LANKA PUWATH)--A record number of 620 Sri Lankan refugees in south India have returned to Sri Lanka in January 1987, Rehabilitation and Educational Services Minister Lionel Jayatilleke told LANKA PUWATH today. He said that for the year 1989 a total of 868 Sri Lankan refugees in south India have returned to Sri Lanka. Minister Jayatilleke said that more refugees are expected to return in the next few days. Refugees who returned last year have been resettled and rehabilitated, he added. Some of these refugees who have returned this month have contracted diseases such as diarrhea and scabies. The ministry has already sent medicine to the government agent, Mannar, to treat these persons with the assistance of the minister. [Excerpt] [Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English 0936 GMT 31 Jan 87 BK] /9738

CAMPS TO REHABILITATE TERRORISTS--Colombo, 7 Feb (LANKA PUWATH)--Separatist terrorists who have surrendered to the security forces will be rehabilitated in camps which are to be set up shortly by the Rehabilitation Ministry, Educational Services and Rehabilitation Minister Lionel Jayatilleke told LANKA PUWATH today. The minister said that a large number of terrorists have surrendered to the security forces. He further said some of these terrorists have surrendered with their weapons. Minister Jayatilleke added that these terrorists have told the security authorities that they have now understood the correct situation in the country, the cooperation of the majority Sinhala towards finding a peaceful solution to the ethnic crisis. Mr Mayatilleke said that several camps will be opened shortly to rehabilitate these terrorists with the assistance of the security authorities. [Text] [Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English 0651 GMT 7 Feb 87 BK] /9738

ECONOMIC COMMISSION SESSION--Colombo, 14 Feb (AGERPRES)--The sixth session of the joint Romanian-Sri Lankan Government Commission of Economic Cooperation took place in Colombo to examine the actions taken in view of setting new measures meant to contribute to the further development of the economic links between the two countries. The protocol of the session was signed by Alexandru Babe, Romanian minister of finance, and Ronald Del Mel, minister of finance and planning of Sri Lanka. The Romanian minister of finance had an interview with the Prime Minister of the Republic of Sri Lanka, Ranasinghe Premadasa, when they surveyed possibilities of boosting the commercial exchanges and economic cooperation between the two countries. [Text] [Bucharest AGERPRES in Romanian 1232 GMT 14 Feb 87 AU] /9738

JAPANESE GRANT AID--The government of Japan will extend grant aid assistance in the form of debt relief to Sri Lanka amounting to 41 million rupees. Letters were exchanged yesterday at the Ministry of Finance and Planning in Colombo providing for the grant. The proceeds of the grant and its accrued interest will be used by the government of Sri Lanka for the purchase of a wide range of commodities necessary for economic development. The grant agreement was signed by Ambassador Hiroshi Otaka and the acting secretary to the Ministry of Finance and Planning, B. Mahadeva, yesterday. The exchange of notes was the last to be signed by Mr Otaka on the eve of his departure after his tenure of 4 years in Sri Lanka. [Text] [Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 28 Feb 87 BK] /9738

TROOPS ATTACK CAMPS--Colombo, 19 Feb (AFP)--Fourteen Tamil separatists were killed and 16 taken prisoner when security forces attacked three training camps in deep jungle in eastern Sri Lanka, a government spokesman said Thursday. Two of the camps in the Muttur area of Trincomalee District had rifle target ranges while the third was used as a hand grenade training base, a government spokesman said. The Sri Lankan security forces were backed up by air cover during Wednesday's raid, the spokesman added. [Excerpt] [Hong Kong AFP in English 1545 GMT 19 Feb 87 BK] /9738

STATE OF EMERGENCY EXTENDED--The extension of the state of emergency by a further month was passed in parliament this morning. One hundred and sixteen members voted for the proposal while the member of parliament for Kalawana, D. Gunasekara, voted against it. The MP of the SSP [Sri Lankan Sama Samaja Party] abstained. Earlier State Minister Dr Anandatissa de Alwis told the house that there was no secret in the government's plan to find a solution to the ethnic problem. He said that the president had full confidence in the people. The president yesterday presented to parliament the proposals and details of talks on ending the ethnic crisis. The minister made it clear that there would never be any secret in the attempt to find a solution to the ethnic problem. He reiterated that the government would never agree to any merger of two provinces. Opposition leader Anura Bandaranaike, who spoke earlier, pointed out the need for the government to provide protection to the Sinhala and Muslim people living in the Eastern Province. [Excerpt] [Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 20 Feb 87 BK] /9738

HELICOPTERS STRAFE VILLAGE--Sri Lankan helicopters strafed a village about 18 km north of Vavuniya yesterday. Seven civilians were injured. The strafing followed a landmine blast in the village in which four security personnel were wounded. Eyewitnesses told our Colombo correspondent that the troops took away eight civilians who are still reported missing. A number of houses were burned down. Meanwhile, the government has decided to restore train services to the north up to Kilinochchi from tomorrow. [Text] [Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 24 Feb 87 BK] /9738

CSO: 4600/153

- END -

**END OF
FICHE**

DATE FILMED

29 April 1981